OLD SCOTTISH SPORTING PLATE

COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Thursday
JANUARY 12, 1956

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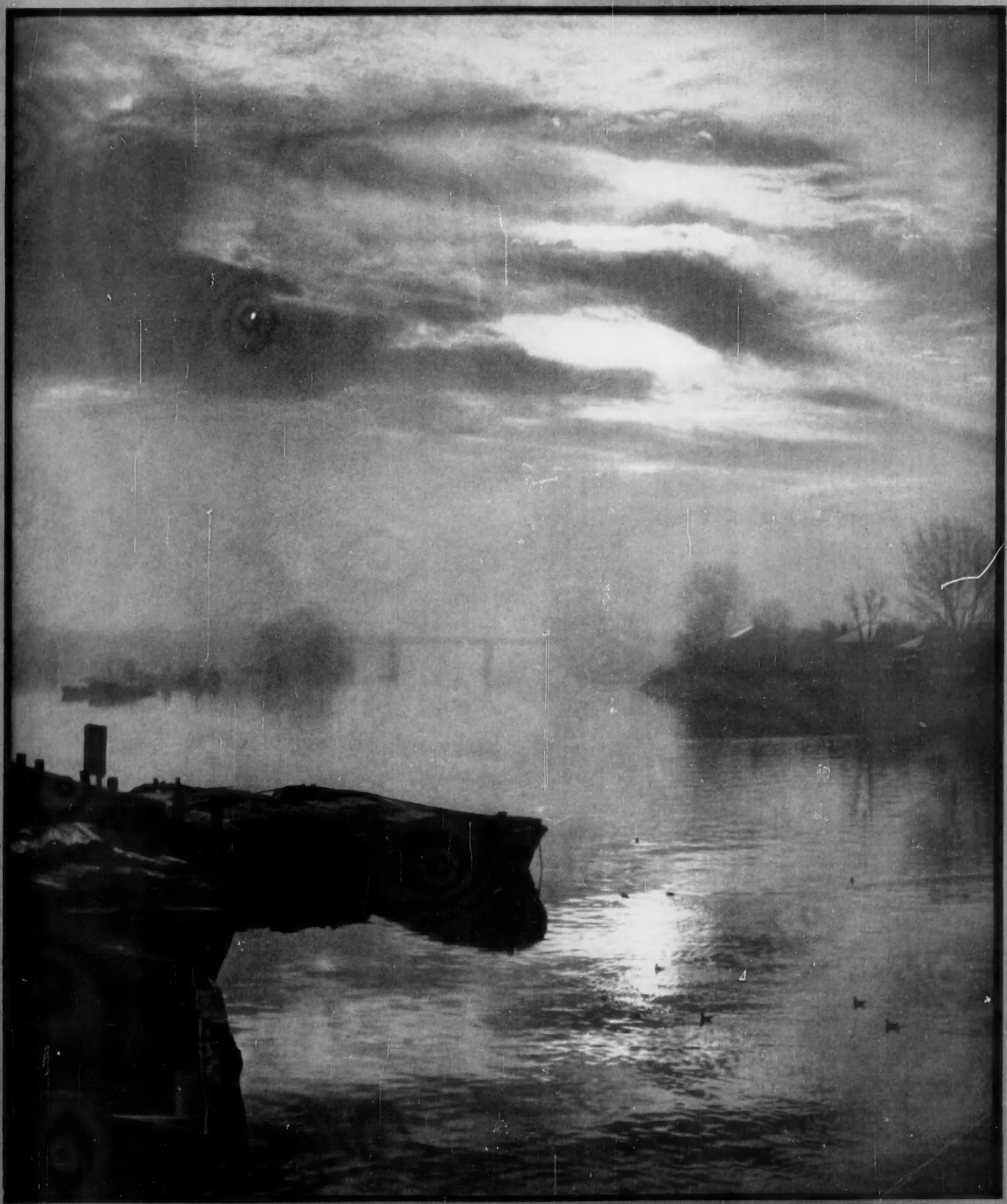

WINTER HAZE: KEW BRIDGE

G. F. Allen

classified announcements

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See also Auction Column, Supplement 16

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will save
GOSFIELD HALL, ESSEX
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and restore this Historic House as a Residential Nursing Home with Hospital Facilities for sixty-four aged, sick and infirm men and women with very slender incomes and run it for them with the minimum of fees as a self-supporting project.

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CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS
CONTINUED ON OTHER PAGES
Supplement 16—Property.
Pages 90 - 91—All other classified advertisements.

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIX No. 3078 JANUARY 12, 1956

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

By direction of the Trustees of the 8th Earl of Darnley Will Trust.

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One of the Stately Homes of England

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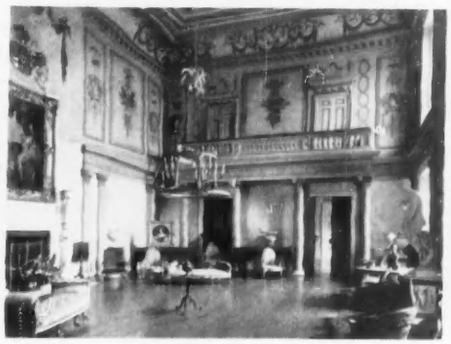

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includes original decorations by James Wyatt and other famous masters.

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Great hall with granite staircase, the Inigo Jones gilt hall, panelled west library, the long picture gallery (133 feet), and the blue damask rooms.

Also several other principal reception rooms, suites of main bedrooms and bathrooms, secondary and staff accommodation.

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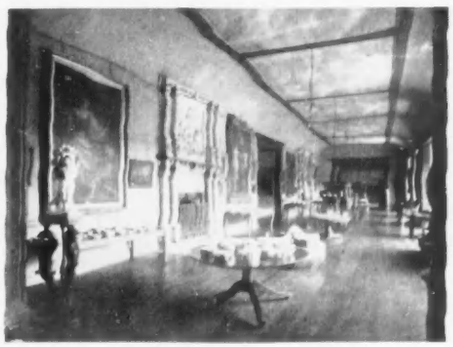
The Trustees are prepared to negotiate for the sale of these in addition to the purchase price.



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THE FAMOUS LANDSCAPE GARDENS

Originally laid out by Humphry Repton in 1790 with century old lawns, stately cedars and masses of spring bulbs. Lake, garden temple. Charles Dickens chalet

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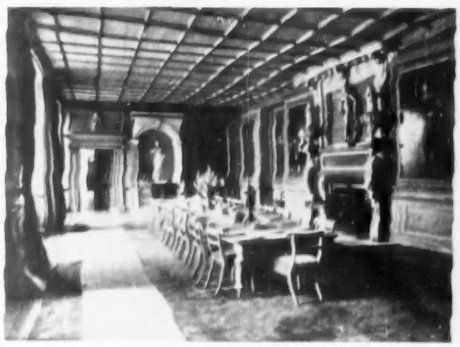
Walled kitchen garden area of 5 acres with extensive ranges of glass

TWO LODGES

TWO OTHER COTTAGES

Ample garages and stabling



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Or the mansion would be sold with less land by arrangement.

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Beautifully situated overlooking Menai Straits.

HALL, 4 REC., 16 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, GARAGES, STABLING, FLAT.

Main electricity and water

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FARMBUILDINGS

Level parkland, ideal for playing fields. Woodland. In all about **28 ACRES**.

Freehold with Vacant Possession.

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3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS, NURSERY SUITE, 3 BATHROOMS

Central heating. Main electricity. Own water.

Modern drainage.

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New or completely modernised farm buildings with T.T. cowsheds for 32 and stabling for 5.

150 ACRES. £22,500

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DOUBLE GARAGE. ENCHANTING GARDEN BOUNDED ON ONE SIDE BY A STREAM

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PRICE £5,000

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3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 6 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM.

MAIN SERVICES. COTTAGE (let). GARDEN.

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A LOVELY TUDOR COTTAGE, very isolated. 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Main water. Private electricity.

½ ACRE. FREEHOLD £4,250

(London Office. Folio 18443.)

WOODHAM FERRERS, ESSEX

Chelmsford 8 miles.

17th CENTURY FARMHOUSE. 2-3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms and 1 attic, bathroom. Main water and electricity.

1½ ACRES. FREEHOLD £5,750

(London Office. Folio 18260.)

BROAD OAK, RYE, SUSSEX

Hastings 10 miles.

DELIGHTFUL COTTAGE SOME 400 YEARS OLD and quite rural. 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity. Private water. Various outbuildings. **5½ ACRES.**

Suitable for further development as a Market Garden or Smallholding.

FREEHOLD £4,800

(London Office. Folio 18101.)

NORTHERN COUNTIES

We are seeking to satisfy the demands of 2 prominent individuals and a Corporate Body with

FUNDS IN THE REGION OF

£30,000, £60,000 AND £200,000

WISHING TO PURCHASE PRIVATELY AGRICULTURAL ESTATES PREFERABLY ALL LET AT ECONOMIC RENTS OR JUSTIFYING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ON FIXED EQUIPMENT

A GROUSE MOOR OR GOOD FISHING WOULD BE CONSIDERED AN ASSET IN ONE CASE

Brief details in confidence should be sent in first instance to W. J. GIBSON, F.A.I., JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 23, High Petergate, York (Tel. 25033).

WEST COAST OF IRELAND

TO BE LET FOR 1956 SEASON

EXCELLENT FLY FISHING FOR

SALMON AND SEA TROUT

in

RIVER AND FOUR LAKES

AVERAGE ABOUT 40 SALMON AND 570 SEA TROUT

GOOD LODGE (no staff) AND GHILLIES INCLUDED

TWO EXCELLENT HOTELS WITHIN EASY REACH

Apply: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (MAYfair 3316); JACKSON-STOPS & McCABE, 30, College Green, Dublin (Tel. 71177).

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

SUSSEX. ASHDOWN FOREST

Facing south, 600 feet up, with magnificent views. 2 miles from station.

Well-equipped house in *good decorative order.*
Panelled lounge and dining room, sitting room, study, modern domestic offices with Esse cooker, 7 bed. and dressing rooms (basins h. and c.), 3 bathrooms.
Automatic central heating. Gas. Main electricity and water. Staff cottage, double garage and stabling. Attractive terraced garden, orchard, kitchen garden.

IN ALL 4½ ACRES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Joint Sole Agents: RODERICK T. INNES, Crowborough, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (47,297 K.M.)

CLOSE TO HAMPSHIRE COAST

Occupying a delightful position on edge of unspoilt village.
WITHIN A FEW MINUTES WALK OF THE SEA

A charming Queen Anne house in first-class order, having every modern convenience.

4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.
Automatic central heating. All main services. Tithe barn. Garage.

COTTAGE

Beautiful well-stocked garden, walled kitchen garden, paddock.

ABOUT 12 ACRES.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (37,197 K.M.)

MAYfair 3771 (15 lines)

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HEREFORD OFFICE: 22 HIGH TOWN (Tel. 5160)

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NICHOLAS

(ESTABLISHED 1882)

1, STATION ROAD, READING
READING 54055 (3 lines)

SUSSEX

3 miles from Chichester and Bognor.

THIS EXCEPTIONALLY BEAUTIFUL CAROLEAN HOUSE

is in excellent order throughout and has recently been sympathetically modernised with new parquet flooring and central heating.

5 BEDROOMS
3 RECEPTION ROOMS
including charming hall/dining room with elegant Georgian staircase.

Good outbuildings with dairy, stabling and garages for 3 cars.
ABOUT 7 ACRES including 2 paddocks.

FREEHOLD £9,500

For full particulars and photographs apply to Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office).

BERKSHIRE—PADDINGTON 35 MINUTES

18th-CENTURY ELEGANCE COMBINED WITH MODERN COMFORT IN A HOUSE OF CHARM AND BEAUTY

4 BEDROOMS
2 BATHROOMS
3 RECEPTION ROOMS
ENCHANTING KITCHEN WITH AGA

Central heating by Agamatic

DETACHED BRICK GARAGE

Small garden.

FREEHOLD £6,500

Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office).

NEAR HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK

BEAUTIFUL TUDOR FARMHOUSE WITH 56 ACRES

6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms. Main electricity.

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION £7,500

Apply: Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office).

WANTED FOR A CLIENT

No Commission Required.

HAMPSHIRE, BERKSHIRE OXFORDSHIRE or BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

A HOUSE OF CHARACTER

with about 6 bedrooms and a small timbered park of not less than 15 acres.

Owners are invited to write in confidence to Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office), marking the envelopes ARH/B. The letters will be read only by the partner dealing with this particular inquiry.

BRAY-ON-THAMES, BERKS

A DELIGHTFUL OLD-WORLD COTTAGE

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge, dining room, study, kitchen. Large garage. All main services.

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,750

Apply: Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office).

RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, F.R.I.C.S.

SALISBURY, LONDON, SHERBORNE, SOUTHAMPTON, TAUNTON

SOUTH WEST WILTS

6 miles from Shaftesbury, 16 from Salisbury.

AN EARLY GEORGIAN RECTORY

475 ft. above sea level.
3 reception rooms, kitchen, 7 bedrooms, 1 dressing room, bathroom, etc.

Main electricity and water.

GARDEN AND ORCHARD
1½ ACRES
GARAGE AND STABLING

PRICE £3,400. FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION.

Apply: RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Salisbury Office.

OVERLOOKING LYME BAY

Lyme Regis ½ mile.

ARCHITECT DESIGNED MARINE RESIDENCE

Entrance hall, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 drawing rooms, bathroom, well appointed kitchen, cloakroom.

ALL MAIN SERVICES

Mature garden. Tennis court.

GARAGE

FREEHOLD 1 ACRE POSSESSION

PRICE £6,250 or would be sold with ½ Acre £5,250, or the half acre building plot £1,250.

Apply: RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Mansfield House, Silver Street, Taunton. Tel. 5744

HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDe Park 8222 (20 lines) Telegrams: "Selanlet Piccy, London"

SUSSEX

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A VILLAGE YET WITH PLEASANT SECLUSION AND A GLORIOUS SOUTHERN VIEW

FOR SALE A REGENCY HOUSE

Beautifully modernised and in faultless order throughout.

Exceedingly well arranged on two floors, and having a lovely suite of reception rooms chiefly facing south.

Lounge (39 ft. by 24 ft.), sitting room (24 ft. by 18 ft.), dining room (25 ft. by 16 ft.), study. Principal suite of bedroom (22 ft. by 18 ft.), dressing room and luxurious bathroom, 4 other bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

COTTAGE FOR MARRIED COUPLE

Central heating. Parquet floors.

Company's water and electricity.

STABLING, GARAGE, COWHOUSE

Inexpensive grounds of a most attractive nature, two paddocks, in all about **12 ACRES**

PRICE FREEHOLD £14,750

Strongly recommended by: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.63560)

NEAR BILLERICAY, ESSEX

Edge of charming village with church, stores and bus service.

2 miles station (Liverpool Street 40 minutes).

SOUTHERLY ASPECT ON A RIDGE WITH A MAGNIFICENT VIEW

Lovely old Georgian House with bright and spacious rooms; modernised.

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms; self-contained staff annexe.

Main electricity, gas and water.

2 garages, outbuildings.

Delightful old-world garden with spreading lawns, paddock and fruit, **IN ALL 4 ACRES** (partly let).

PRICE £8,000 FREEHOLD

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (M.60362)

BETWEEN READING AND OXFORD

In a picturesque village nestling in the Berkshire Downs, 3¼ miles main line—Paddington 75 minutes.

LUXURIOUSLY EQUIPPED MODERN RESIDENCE

Planned on 2 floors and fitted for complete ease of running.

Hall, 2 reception rooms, study, domestic offices, 5 principal bed and dressing, 2 bathrooms.

Self-contained wing with 2 bed. and bath.

Oil-fired central heating. Co.'s services.

Garages and stabling.

Cottage. Secluded and mainly walled gardens, fully stocked and matured, large orchard.

IN ALL ABOUT 2½ ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD ON APPLICATION

Recommended with every confidence as an outstanding modern property.

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.65179)

HERTFORDSHIRE

Close to the old town of Hemel Hempstead.

High secluded position; 1 mile Boxmoor station.

CHARMING HOUSE, EASY TO RUN

Hall, double lounge and 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms and model offices.

GARAGES WITH 2 FLATS ADJOINING

Main electric light, gas and water.

CENTRAL HEATING

Delightful timbered grounds of **3¼ ACRES**

FREEHOLD £7,750. AN EXCELLENT PROPOSITION

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (R.3440)

London 15 miles.

ESHER, SURREY

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE IN EXCLUSIVE AREA

Of especial interest to the discerning purchaser who appreciates solid oak joinery, polished floors, luxury fittings, etc.

Spacious hall, cloakroom, 2-3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, kitchen, etc.

Garage.

Partial central heating.

OUTBUILDINGS

Beautifully kept secluded garden and kitchen garden **⅓ ACRE**

FREEHOLD AT ONLY £7,750

Recommended by:

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.65306)

NASSAU, BAHAMAS

THIS LUXURIOUS BEACH RESIDENCE

TASTEFULLY FURNISHED

3 BEDROOMS, 2 BATH.

LIVING ROOM 39 ft. by 12 ft. 6 in.

DINING ROOM

SERVANTS' QUARTERS

GARAGE

PRIVATE BEACH

PRICE FURNISHED £40,000

Further particulars from:

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1, or H. G. CHRISTIE, Nassau, Bahamas.

MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA

UNIQUE NEW WATERFRONT RESIDENCE

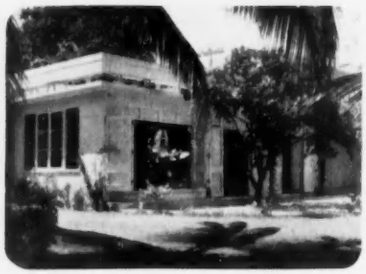
3 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHS. (spacious master room on its own floor)

LARGE LIVING ROOM 36 ft. by 25 ft. with open-air patio

DINING ALCOVE

BAR

CONTOUR SHAPED SWIMMING POOL



PRICE £15,000

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1, or GRAHAM ASSOCIATES, LTD., Montego Bay, Jamaica.

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON AND STATION; BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS; AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

HYDE PARK 4304

OSBORN & MERCER

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY W.1

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

IN LOVELY COUNTRY NEAR MAIDSTONE

An Historical Half-timbered Manor House dating from the 14th century, modernised and in first-class order.

Magnificent Great Hall, 4 reception, 5 principal and 4 secondary beds, 3 baths. Part central heating.

TWO COTTAGES (ONE LET). OUTBUILDINGS

Delightful gardens forming an ideal setting for the house; hard tennis court, prolific orchards, etc.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 5 ACRES

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,384)

OFF THE READING-WOODCOTE ROAD

Near a village on a southern slope of the Chilterns Hills.

A CHARMING MODERN ARCHITECT DESIGNED BUNGALOW

Having lounge, kitchen/dining room, 2 bedrooms (ample roof space for further bedrooms), bathroom.

Well planned and fitted, and in first-class decorative order throughout.

Main electricity and water, about ½ acre of garden.

RATEABLE VALUE ONLY £12. FREEHOLD £4,250

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,899)

RICKMANSWORTH AND MOOR PARK

Some 350 feet above sea level, surrounded by Green Belt and commanding lovely views.

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE

On 2 floors only with 3 reception rooms, sun room, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity and water. **Brick and tile stable block with large garage, stabling, playroom, etc.**

Matured garden with orchard and paddock in all

ABOUT 3 ACRES

FREEHOLD £9,750 TO INCLUDE CERTAIN VALUABLE FITTINGS

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,905)

CHICHESTER HARBOUR

Occupying a pleasant position on the outskirts of the delightful yachting village of Itchenor.

A CHARMING SMALL MODERN HOUSE

On 2 floors only, with a view of the Channel. Hall, 2 reception, 3-4 bedrooms (basins h. and c.), bathroom, maids' room, adequate domestic offices. Main electricity and water. 2 garages. Matured garden.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT ¾ ACRE

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,855)

3, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor 1032-33-34

WESTCOTT, NEAR DORKING

In a delightful rural setting on the fringe of this charming old-world village, within 3 miles of main line station, frequent electric train service to the City and West End.

Fine views of the Ranmore Ridge

A FASCINATING OLD HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM AND ATMOSPHERE

Formerly the home of a famous architect and the subject of an illustrated article in COUNTRY LIFE. Completely modernised regardless of expense and now in faultless order.

6 bedrooms, luxurious bathroom and shower room, 3 delightful reception rooms, impeccable modern kitchen with every conceivable labour saving device. *All main services. Central heating. Garage for 3 cars.* **Exquisite gardens with fine old yew hedge, paved walks, herbaceous borders, picturesque Gazebo. Orchard.**

In all about 1½ ACRES

A SUBSTANTIAL PRICE IS REQUIRED FOR THIS UNIQUE FREEHOLD PROPERTY WHICH, HOWEVER, ONLY REPRESENTS A FRACTION OF ITS COST.

Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

ESHER
WALTON-ON-THAMES
WEYBRIDGE
CHOBHAM

MANN & CO. AND EWBANK & CO.

COBHAM
GUILDFORD
WOKING
WEST BYFLEET

WEST SURREY

DELIGHTFUL TUDOR PROPERTY

BACKING TO FARMLAND, NEAR WINDSOR

Buses pass property, station nearby (Waterloo 30 mins.)

6 bedrooms (h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, 34 ft. lounge, dining room, entrance hall, cloakroom, good kitchen. Double garage. Approx. **1 ACRE.**

Central heating, main services, modern drainage. Excellent brick and tile summer house.

£8,500 FREEHOLD, to include fitted carpets, curtains, light fittings.

(Chobham Office: High Street. Tel. 38).

MODERN DETACHED

GEORGIAN STYLE COTTAGE

On exclusive private estate, COBHAM.

4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, separate w.c., entrance hall, through lounge, dining room, modern kitchen, cloakroom.

Dual h.w. system, central heating. Detached garage, beautiful garden ½ **ACRE.**

FREEHOLD

(Cobham Office: EWBANK & Co., 19, High Street. Tel. 47).

GUILDFORD

Favoured residential road, near London Road station, town centre.

CHARMING COTTAGE STYLE HOUSE

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, detached garage, ¼ **ACRE** secluded garden.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

£5,000 FREEHOLD.

(Guildford Office: 22, Epsom Road. Tel. 62911-2).

WEST BYFLEET, SURREY

CHARMING DETACHED HOUSE

5 principal bedrooms, 2 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 good reception rooms, lounge hall with polished oak floors, cloakroom.

DOUBLE GARAGE. ALL MAIN SERVICES.

Very well maintained garden about ⅔ **ACRE.**

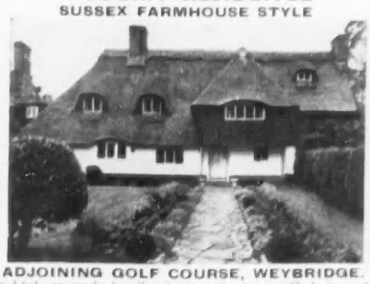
£6,750 FREEHOLD.

(West Byfleet Office: Station Approach. Tel. 3288-9).

DELIGHTFUL

MODERN RESIDENCE

SUSSEX FARMHOUSE STYLE



ADJOINING GOLF COURSE, WEYBRIDGE.

On high ground. ½ mile station, 3 mins. walk bus route. EXCELLENT ORDER. CENTRAL HEATING. 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, etc., 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen, staff room, 2 garages. Secluded garden, gate to golf course.

FREEHOLD

(Weybridge Office: EWBANK & Co., 7, Baker Street. Tel. 61-2).

DELIGHTFUL

CHARACTER COTTAGE

Magnificent views, Hook Heath.

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, hall, cloakroom, modern kitchen with dining recess. Garage.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

MAIN SERVICES, MODERN DRAINAGE.

£4,950 FREEHOLD

(Woking Office: 3, High Street. Tel. 3800-3).

GROsvenor 1553 (4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

13, Hobart Place, Eaton Square, 5, West Halkin Street, Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1

CHISLEHURST, KENT

30 minutes City and West End.

COMPACT DETACHED MODERN GEORGIAN-STYLE HOUSE

with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large lounge-dining room, kitchenette, cloakroom.

Main water and electricity.

DOUBLE GARAGE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. R.A.W. (D.2773)

OUTSKIRTS OF

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS

Adjoining cherry orchards yet 7 minutes from shops and station.

CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE IN CLASSIC GEORGIAN STYLE. 5-6 bedrooms, bathroom, drawing room (26 ft. by 22 ft.), dining room, compact offices, 2 garages. *All services.* Exceptional garden **1 ACRE**

FREEHOLD £7,750

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. C.B.A. (C.6839)

WANTED

WITH POSSESSION IN THE SPRING

CHARACTER HOUSE, NOT MODERN, WITH 5 BEDROOMS, ETC.

within 20 miles of Salisbury.

Rural position.

COTTAGE

30 ACRES for horses.

River or lake a great attraction.

Please write with details to "Mrs. C.," c/o GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.

(Usual commission required.)

22, KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

GODDARD & SMITH

WHItehall 2721 (20 lines)

OXHEY, HERTS

SUPERIOR MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE

In cul-de-sac on high ground. All rooms face south. 7 bedrooms (basins), 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, imposing hall, cloakroom, kitchen, maids' sitting room, etc. CENTRAL HEATING. Detached garage for 4 cars. Large garden.

FREEHOLD £8,750

BETWEEN

GERRARDS CROSS & FULMER

RECENTLY CONVERTED COTTAGE

In lovely park. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 sitting rooms, kitchen, charming garden, free garage. Rent £250 p.a. exclusive. Lease 21 years.

PREMIUM £1,650

TILFORD, SURREY

Farnham 4 miles.

NEWLY CONVERTED COTTAGE, FORMERLY COACH HOUSE

3 bedrooms, bathroom, living room, dining room, kitchenette. Electric light and water, modern drainage. Built-in garage. ½ **ACRE** wooded garden. R.V. £24.

£3,650 FREEHOLD

ESSEX

On edge of village, 11 miles Cambridge, 5 miles Saffron Walden.

4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 sitting rooms, kitchen. Main electricity and water. Attractive garden and paddock. 2 garages.

FREEHOLD £2,600

IDE HILL

Near Sevenoaks (London 27 miles).

SUPERIOR GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE

Ideally situated for a business man. 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, Aga cooker, etc., and service flat containing 2 bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room, kitchen. Central heating (oil). Garage block with double garage and maisonette with 2 bedrooms, large sitting room, bathroom, kitchen. **27 ACRES** including **9 ACRES** paddock, hard tennis court, swimming pool, walled garden, outbuildings, etc.

£12,500

OVERLOOKING

BARNES COMMON

GEORGIAN-STYLE DETACHED DOUBLE FRONTED RESIDENCE

Nearing completion. All modern conveniences and fittings.

CENTRAL HEATING

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 communicating reception rooms, study, kitchen with breakfast recess, cloakroom. Large garage and garden.

£7,750 FOR LONG LEASE

GROsvenor 2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams: "Cornishmen (Audley), London"

CAMBRIDGE—NEWMARKET (EASY REACH OF)

On edge of pleasant village. 4 miles old-fashioned market town.

SMALL GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE

Completely modernised. 4 bed., 2 bath., 3 reception, ultra-modern kitchen. Janitor boiler. *Central heating. Main electricity and water.* Garage. Farmery, small garden and pastureland.

IN ALL 22 ACRES

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (27,255)

ASHDOWN FOREST GOLF COURSE

(Within few minutes walk.) Lovely views over the Forest. 4½ miles East Grinstead.

CHARMING HOUSE OF CHARACTER

Designed by famous architect, in faultless order. Hall, 3-4 reception, 2 bath., 5 bedrooms (h. and c.), attic. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Nicely disposed grounds, tennis lawn, orchard, parkland and small wood. **12 ACRES.**

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,916)

£4,500 FREEHOLD. BARGAIN

LYME REGIS (about 1 mile distant)

High up, glorious coastal views. **INTERESTING HOUSE DATING FROM 18th CENTURY.** 3 large reception, study, 3 bath., 5 bed., attics. *Main services.* Garage. Cottage. Lovely walled and other gardens, kitchen garden and orchard.

2 ACRES

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (29,672)

BEAUFORT AND AVON VALE HUNTS

2½ miles main line station (1½ hours London).

DELIGHTFUL OLD MANOR HOUSE

Recently restored and modernised, equipped with oil-fired central heating, main electricity and water, Aga cooker. Hall, 4 reception, 3 bath (en suite), 5 bedrooms, dressing room. Staff cottage adjoining. GARAGE FOR 3. RANGE OF LOOSE BOXES. PAIR OF COTTAGES. Grounds with variety of trees, spacious lawns, hard tennis court, walled kitchen garden, orchard and good feeding pastures.

30 ACRES

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (30,506)

MAIDENHEAD AND MARLOW (between)

Quiet position away from traffic. Easy reach station and river.

A CHARMING BLACK AND WHITE HOUSE. Hall, 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 6 bedrooms. Main electricity, water and gas. Telephone. Large garage. Gardens partly bounded by backwater. Lawns, kitchen garden, etc.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (19,922)

WANTED QUICKLY

In Cotswold or Heythrop country.

CHARACTER HOUSE, FAIRLY MODERNISED. 5-7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception (one must be large). Sufficient land for privacy. **30 UP TO 300 ACRES.**

Cottage and hunter stabling an asset. Usual commission required.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

5la, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON, W.C.2. Tel.: HOLborn 8741-7.

ALFRED SAVILL & SONS

And at GUILDFORD, WOKING and WIMBORNE

Chartered Surveyors and Land Agents. Associated with PETRE & ALFRED SAVILL & SONS, Norwich, Loddon and Fakenham.

IN SUNNY ISLE OF WIGHT

Yarmouth 6 miles, Newport 10 miles. In country village.

A DELIGHTFUL SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE

Sheltered by the Downs; southern exposure. Close to beach.

5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, etc.
GARAGE
STABLE

About **1¼ ACRES** with walled garden.

Second dwelling adjoining of 2 bedrooms, bathroom, living room and kitchen.

Main electric light and water.

ESTATE MAIN DRAINAGE. ENTIRELY MODERNISED.

FREEHOLD £5,750

IN RURAL ESSEX

Maldon 4 miles, Chelmsford 9 miles, London 1 hour by train. 300 feet up with superb views.

A CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE

In grounds of over 10 ACRES including paddock, plantation and orchard.

8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, etc.

Central heating, main water and electricity.

GOOD COTTAGE

SAILING AT MALDON.

HUNTING WITH THE EAST ESSEX FOXHOUNDS

£5,500 FREEHOLD

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. BALCH & BALCH, Witham, Essex (Tel. 3381) and ALFRED SAVILL & SONS, as above.

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1
GROsvenor
5131 (8 lines)

CURTIS & HENSON

and at
21, HORSEFAIR,
BANBURY, OXON
Tel. 3295-6

COTSWOLDS

MODERN STONE-BUILT HOUSE

5 BEDROOMS, 2 RECEPTION
KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

MOST ATTRACTIVE GARDEN

PRICE £5,750 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, Banbury.

NEW FOREST

GEORGIAN RECTORY

3 RECEPTION, 7 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS

Oil-fired central heating

ABOUT 2½ ACRES

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, London.

EDGE HILL

With magnificent views.

HORNTON STONE—SEMI-BUNGALOW

2 SITTING ROOMS, 3 BEDROOMS
KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

ABOUT 3¾ ACRES

OFFERS OVER £4,000. FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, Banbury.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

SUPERIOR BUNGALOW

2 RECEPTION, 3 BEDROOMS, KITCHEN
BATHROOM AND LARGE GARAGE

Extensive orchard. Poultry houses and pigsties.

ABOUT 3¾ ACRES

PRICE £4,950 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, Banbury.

SUFFOLK

16th-CENTURY MANOR HOUSE

2 RECEPTION, 7 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS
3 BATHROOMS

ABOUT 6 ACRES

PRICE £10,000 FREEHOLD

Let Farm of 148 acres may also be purchased.

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. COBBE & WINCER, 7, Arcade Street, Ipswich, and CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

SUNNINGDALE

In unique position on exclusive private estate.

SMALL COTTAGE

2 SITTING ROOMS, 2 BEDROOMS
KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

Greenhouses and outbuildings.

ABOUT 2 ACRES

Main services.

PRICE £2,950 for 55 years Lease.

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, London.

AUCTIONEERS, ESTATE AGENTS
AND VALUERS

Tel. 3584, 3150, 4268 and 61360 (4 lines)

COWARD, JAMES & MORRIS
INCORPORATING
FORTT, HATT & BILLINGS

NEW BOND STREET CHAMBERS
14, NEW BOND STREET,
BATH

SOMERSET

FREE AND THRIVING
FULLY LICENSED
CHARACTER INN

Located on an island site on the main A.36 road, connecting the large cities of the West Country to the Dorset and Hampshire coastal resorts

and recognised

AS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR RENDEZVOUS IN THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY

TWO BARS

(quite inadequate to meet the present trade, but with ample space for extension).

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC GARDENS
COMMODIOUS CAR PARK

**EXCELLENT
LIVING ACCOMMODATION**

comprising

2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom and usual offices

TO BE SOLD PRIVATELY

With usual stock and trade fixtures, etc., at valuation.

EARLY INSPECTION ESSENTIAL TO AVOID MISSING AN UNUSUAL AND RARE OPPORTUNITY

DORKING (Tel. 2212)
EFFINGHAM (Tel. Bookham 2801)
BOOKHAM (Tel. 2744)

CUBITT & WEST

HASLEMERE (Tel. 680)
FARNHAM (Tel. 5261)
HINDHEAD (Tel. 63)

Between COBHAM AND GUILDFORD

On outskirts of village facing the green.

A REALLY ATTRACTIVE 17th-CENTURY HOUSE, carefully modernised to retain the character and features of the period. Easy reach of London by road. 5 bed. (all with basins), 3 charming rec. rooms, maid's bedroom, playroom, cloakroom, bathroom, excellent domestic offices. ½ **ACRE** really attractive walled garden. Main electricity, water and drainage.

PRICE £5,750 FREEHOLD

CUBITT & WEST, Effingham Office (EX.60)

HEADLEY, NEAR DORKING

SUPERB DETACHED LUXURY
BUNGALOWS

CHOICE OF TWO

**OCCUPYING LOVELY RURAL POSITION
ADJOINING NATIONAL TRUST LAND**

Each containing spacious and expensively fitted accommodation of

2 reception rooms, luxury kitchen and bathroom
3 bedrooms.

DETACHED GARAGE

Many features including full central heating.

About **1 ACRE** garden

PRICES £4,950 AND £5,950

CUBITT & WEST, Dorking Office (Tel. 2212-3)

HASLEMERE, SURREY

FAVOURITE RESIDENTIAL POSITION

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE in convenient situation near to shops, churches, station and buses. Golf at Camelhead and Liphook. 4 bedrooms with basins, bathroom, 2 reception, cloaks, part c.h., double garage. Main services. Garden ½ **ACRE**

PRICE £4,900 FREEHOLD

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office (HX.560)

23, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

GROsvenor 1441

CLOSE LIMPSFIELD COMMON

Surrey, 500 ft. up on the edge of glorious country. Oxted station 1 mile; 40 mins. London.

FINE MODERN HOUSE, 5 beds. (basins, h. and c.), 2 baths., lounge, 2 reception, 2 staff bedrooms and sitting room. Mains. Garage and stabling. Secluded gardens.

FREEHOLD, WITH 1½ ACRES

FRISTON, NEAR EASTBOURNE

A picked position with magnificent panoramic views of the Downs and the sea in the distance. Adjoining National Trust land and walking distance of the village of East Dean. Good bus service.

Charming Architect-built modern Family House with light and sunny rooms, set in picturesque garden on southern slope. 3 reception, cloakroom, 4 beds. (basins), 2 baths. Self-contained flat of 2 beds. (basins) and kitchenette. Mains. Central heating. Garage. Tennis court. Immediate Possession. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

ON THE HERTS/BUCKS BORDER

Ideal for daily travel, only 20 miles London. High up. Completely rural. Lovely south views. Bus passes property.

BEAUTIFUL MELLOWED CHARACTER HOUSE

Set in lovely natural gardens. 5-6 beds., 2 baths. Panelled dining room, drawing room 32 ft. by 19 ft., study. Small staff wing with bath. Central heating. Mains. Basins. Parquet floors.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH 2 ACRES

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1

STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN

(Formerly JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, LONDON)

HYDe Park 0911-2-3-4

ABOUT 60 MILES FROM LONDON

Most convenient for Banbury with its splendid train services to London and the North.

A MOST ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY WITH ABOUT 101 ACRES AND 4 COTTAGES (MODERNISED AND ALL HAVING BATHROOMS) IS

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

THE RESIDENCE is in splendid order, faces south, commands beautiful views, occupies a rural position away from main roads, 400 feet above sea level and well situated for hunting.

HALL AND 3 SITTING ROOMS, DAY AND NIGHT NURSERIES, 9-10 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS AND EXCELLENT OFFICES, INCLUDING KITCHEN WITH 4-OVEN AGA COOKER.

Services: Central heating throughout. Mains electricity and power. Cay's water. Independent hot water. Septic tank drainage. Telephone. Lavatory basins in many bedrooms and bathrooms.

Simple but attractive gardens (one man for upkeep) and highly productive enclosures of pasture and arable land.

Recommended by the Owner's Sole Agents: STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.25924)

A SELECTION OF FREEHOLD COUNTRY PROPERTIES IN DEVON FOR SALE

TAW VALLEY. GEORGIAN HOUSE. Modernised with central heating. 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Lodge. 6 acres (more available). **£5,500.** Good fishing district. (L.R.27349)

TEIGNMOUTH DISTRICT. MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER, suitable as guesthouse. High situation, rural surroundings. 6-9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. **2½ ACRES. £7,500** (L.R.27298)

BETWEEN OKEHAMPTON AND BUDE. GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE. Main services, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. **8 ACRES. £4,500** (L.R.14463)

NEAR CREDITON. VILLAGE HOUSE. Main electricity and water. 5 bedrooms, bathroom. **3 ACRES. £5,150** (L.R.26978)

OVERLOOKING EXMOOR. PERIOD COTTAGE. Main water. Esse. 3 bedrooms, bathroom. **6 ACRES. £3,250** (L.R.27350)

BETWEEN CREDITON AND OKEHAMPTON. STONE-BUILT HOUSE. Main services and central heating. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. **4¾ ACRES. £4,500.** Excellent sporting facilities. (L.R.27469)

All the above have been inspected and are recommended.

GASCOIGNE-PEES

SURBITON, LEATHERHEAD, DORKING, REIGATE, GUILDFORD, EPSOM

UNIQUE COTTAGE HOME

with Games Room set aside which would readily convert to flatlet.

Ideal for business couple desiring to live close all amenities and within quick reach of London (Waterloo 16 mins.). 2/3 bedrooms, large lounge, spacious up-to-date kitchen, cloakroom, bathroom, etc. **Offers around £3,500 entertained for Freehold.**

Apply: "Charter House," Surbiton. Elmbridge 4141.

ADMIRABLE DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES

for provisional planning consent given to vertically divide fine two-floored residence.

Ideal for family man desiring parents or friends to live adjacent as division will provide four-bedroomed house with imposing lounge/hall, cloakroom, 2 large reception rooms, breakfast room, tiled kitchen, etc., whilst smaller half will make attractive two-bedroomed cottage with 19 ft. lounge having wood block flooring, kitchen, bathroom, etc. Each would have space for garage. **Owner would sell major half for around £4,000 Freehold, or the whole for best offer over £4,500.** Favoured residential road in Cheam/Sutton area within easy reach of all amenities.

Apply: "Charter House," Surbiton. Elmbridge 4141.

CENTRALLY HEATED BUNGALOW

Dorking 2 miles.

Combining rural atmosphere with the convenience of frequent bus routes. Well planned and in good order throughout. Entrance hall with most attractive dining recess, lounge, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, cloakroom, kitchen. Garage. Pleasant garden. **Recommended at £4,950 or near offer. FREEHOLD**

Apply: 31, South Street, Dorking. Tel. 4071/2

PRETTY LITTLE COTTAGE

Enjoying glorious views extending to Newlands Corner.

Amidst the lovely Surrey Hills between Guildford and Dorking and close to the village shops and buses. **The artistic detached double-fronted modern Cottage** comprises charming 16 ft. lounge with double aspect, dining room, 2 excellent bedrooms. Compact kitchen, bathroom. 2 garages. Lovely ½ **ACRE** garden. Main services.

£3,250 FREEHOLD

Apply: 90, High Street, Guildford. Tel. 67377.

WONERSH, NEAR GUILDFORD

In picked position of this favoured Surrey village.

Delightfully planned and of individual style. **The attractive detached lattice windowed Residence** now in course of construction is most conveniently situate on the fringe of the village, just 4 miles south of Guildford. Square hall, charming through lounge, dining room, 3 double bedrooms, spacious superbly equipped kitchen, luxury tiled bathroom. Partial central heating. Large brick garage. Good size garden.

£4,500 FREEHOLD

Apply: 90, High Street, Guildford. Tel. 67377.

82, QUEEN STREET, EXETER

RICKEARD, GREEN & MICHELMORE

'Phone 74072/3 'Grams: "Conric," Exeter

CORNISH COAST

Within sight and sound of sea, Port Gaverne, Port Isaac.

FULLY MODERNISED DETACHED COTTAGE 2 rec., kitchen, 2 double beds. (each with basin, h. and c.) bath., separate w.c. Mains. Small lawn garden. **£1,750 (near).** Mortgagee's sale.

IDEAL PERMANENT OR HOLIDAY HOME

Sole Agents. (Ref. C.11,829.)

SIDMOUTH, 4 MILES

Outskirts residential village, 11 miles Exeter. Buses pass.

DETACHED HOUSE. Larger than average rooms. Hall, 2 rec., breakfast, kitchenette, 3 double bedrooms, bath., separate w.c. Mains. 22 ft. long garage. ¼ **ACRE** garden.

£3,150 (offer)

(Ref. D.11,340.)

MID-DEVON

Outskirts village with daily and school buses. South aspect, open views.

A SMALL HOUSE OF CHARM, containing 3 reception rooms with oak floors, beamed ceilings and panelled walls, cloakroom, 4 beds. (3 with fitted basins), bath and compact offices. Main electricity and water. Large playroom or workshop. Garage. Easily maintained ½ **ACRE** garden.

FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION (Ref. D.11,457)

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

REQUIRED TO PURCHASE

WITHIN 40-50 MILES OF LONDON. SOUTH OF THE MAIN LINE PADDINGTON—HUNGERFORD

AND PREFERABLY IN EAST HAMPSHIRE OR WEST SUSSEX

A WELL EQUIPPED HOUSE OF GEORGIAN OR SIMILAR CHARACTER CONTAINING 8-10-12 BEDROOMS TOGETHER WITH **100-300 ACRES** FOR DAIRY FARMING

APPROXIMATELY £40,000 AVAILABLE FOR SUITABLE PROPERTY

NO HURRY FOR POSSESSION

Brief particulars and, if possible, photographs please, to "Mrs. E," c/o JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (Ref. H.), 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1, who will immediately inspect any promising property.

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX

Tunbridge Wells 8 miles, with fast train service.

CHARMING TUDOR HOUSE

Hall, large sitting room, study, dining room, loggia, kitchen with Aga, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Staff flat with 3 rooms. Many period features. *Central heating. Main electricity.*

Attractive gardens.

DOUBLE GARAGE.

Outbuildings. 2 paddocks.

6¼ ACRES

FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION. PRICE £8,500

Recommended by the Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (J.33,233)

SOUTH WESTMORLAND

LUNEFIELD, KIRKBY LONSDALE

PRICE ONLY £4,750 FREEHOLD

IMPOSING STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE ADAPTED AS HOLIDAY CENTRE

20 miles from Lake Windermere.

6 reception, 24 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms plus showers, offices, stables and flat. Garages.

Staff cottage.

Central heating, main water, gas and electricity.

Gardens and grounds.

ABOUT 9 ACRES WITH POSSESSION

Land Agent: Major B. C. SMARTT, F.L.A.S., Underley Estate Office, Kirkby Lonsdale.

Solicitors: DARLING HESLOP AND FOSTER, High Row, Darlington.

Joint Agents: MICHAEL C. L. HODGSON, Grange over Sands (Tel. 253), or Kendal (Tel. 1375), and JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1.

WANTED FOR SPECIAL CLIENT

A PERIOD HOUSE IN THE WINCHESTER, SALISBURY, SHAFTESBURY DISTRICT

9 BEDROOMS REQUIRED WITH SMALL GARDEN, STAFF COTTAGE AN ADVANTAGE AND ABOUT **10 TO 12 ACRES** WITH PADDOCK

THIS IS AN URGENT ENQUIRY FROM A CLIENT WHO HAS SOLD HIS PROPERTY IN EAST ANGLIA

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED

Full details, please (preferably with photograph), to JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (Ref. N.228)

MAYfair 6341 (10 lines) — 23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 — Telegrams: "Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London"

ALLSOP & CO.

21, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 (GERrard 5847).

ESSEX—SUFFOLK BORDERS

COMFORTABLE MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER WITH FRUIT FARM

Ideal for retirement.

Freehold property comprising House with 4 bedrooms (3 with h. and c.), bathroom, sep. lavatory, large hall, 3 sitting rooms, cloakroom, kitchen and a built-in GARAGE.

Attractive gardens and 3 ACRES intensive dwarf pyramid APPLE ORCHARD in full bearing, the whole comprising about

4½ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AS A GOING CONCERN. PRICE £9,950

Apply: ALLSOP & CO., 21, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 (GERrard 5847).

CONSTANCE HIGBY, WEBB & CHARD

WALTON-ON-THAMES Walton 2487-8 — CLAYGATE (Esher) Esher 2323-4 — HINCHLEY WOOD Emberbrook 2365-6

ASHLEY PARK, Walton-on-Thames. *In a perfect position—entirely secluded—within easy walking distance town and station.* **CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE** of considerable character, built just before the war. *Polished floors, flush doors. Part central heating.* 2 reception, cloakroom, 4 good bedrooms, bright kitchen, tiled bathroom, etc. Delightful garden. *(This property is in* ***EVERY WAY SECLUDED*** *and might well be in the heart of the country.)*

£7,500 FREEHOLD

Apply: *Walton Office, 45, High Street.*

THAMES DITTON

Few minutes' walk excellent travelling facilities, schools, all amenities, well-known cricket green.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE-WASHED FARM HOUSE

Dating back in part some 300 years. Up-to-date appointments. Easily managed garden. Old-established fruit trees. 5 bedrooms, *dressing room, 2 reception, breakfast room,* good domestic offices. Garage. All main services. **£6,000 FREEHOLD (or near offer).**

Apply: The Parade, Claygate, or 25, Station Approach, Hinchley Wood.

Tel. (3 lines)
GROsvenor 3121

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET,
LONDON, W.1

SUSSEX

7 miles from main line station.

A DELIGHTFUL SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE ON ESTATE OF 1,200 ACRES

5 bed., bath., 3 reception rooms. Usual offices. Central heating. Main electricity and water. Stabling, garage. Hunting and golf.

TO LET FURNISHED FOR 2 OR 3 YEARS

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, W.1 (Gro. 3121).

ESSEX

First-class train service. Near yachting and duck shooting.

A MELLOWED BRICK RESIDENCE

6 bed., bath., hall and 2 reception rooms. Central heating throughout. All main services. Garage and stabling. *Easily maintained garden.*

PRICE £4,200 WITH ½ ACRE

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, W.1 (Gro. 3121).

NEAR NEWBURY

A MODERNISED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

in well-timbered parkland. 7 best bed., nurseries, staff rooms, 5 bath., and 4 reception rooms. Main electricity.

Central heating. Home-farm with 4 cottages.

PRICE £12,000 WITH 50 ACRES

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, W.1 (Gro. 3121).

KENT WEALD

6 miles from main line station.

A BEAUTIFUL XVIth CENTURY RESIDENCE

8 bed., 3 bath., 2 reception rooms and hall. Main services. Garages. Cottage. Grounds with hard tennis court and pond.

7 ACRES. PRICE £9,750

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, W.1 (Gro. 3121).

MAPLES

MAPLE & CO.

MAPLES

ESTATE OFFICES, 5, GRAFTON STREET, BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1
Tel. HYDE PARK 4685 *And at Tottenham Court Road, W.1*

BURNHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Of interest to the business executive.

GENTLEMAN'S COUNTRY RESIDENCE. Hall with cloaks, 2 reception rooms, music room, 4 bedrooms and dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 2 staff bedrooms, good domestic offices. Large garages. **3 ACRES** with cottage. **Freehold for Sale by Private Treaty or Auction later.**

MAPLE & Co., LTD., HYDe Park 4685.

PROPERTIES REQUIRED AT ONCE

Usual commission required.

FARM IN EAST ANGLIA
UP TO 400 ACRES

With good shooting available.

House with 8 bedrooms, condition not important. Bury St. Edmunds or Newmarket preferable. Sussex might also be considered. Please forward details to Mr. W.J.A.

C/o Farms Dept., MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above.

In area bounded by

SOUTHAMPTON, WINCHESTER, SHERBORNE AND WEYMOUTH OR RURAL SUSSEX

10 TO 30 ACRES

For fruit, pigs and poultry.

CHARACTER HOUSE with 4-5 bedrooms, outbuildings and cottage. Fishing an asset.

Details to Mr. B.N.S.L.

C/o MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above.

RIVENHALL PARK, ESSEX

40 miles London. 2 miles Witham station.

Fascinating conversion with 16th-century and historical characteristics. Hall with cloakroom and shower, period lounge, dining room, 3 bedrooms, dressing boudoir, bathroom, kitchen with Aga. Central heating. Double garage. **1½ ACRES. Offers for Freehold invited.**

MAPLE & Co., LTD., HYDe Park 4685.

20, HIGH STREET,
HASLEMERE (Tel. 1207-8)

H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON

ESTATE OFFICES, GODALMING (Tel. 1722, 5 lines)

4, CASTLE STREET,
FARNHAM (Tel. 5274-5)

BETWEEN PETERSFIELD AND ALTON

700 feet up with panoramic southerly views. In the heart of the Gilbert White country. Perfect seclusion.

KEYHAM FARM, PRIORS DEAN, Nr. HAWKLEY

A SMALL FREEHOLD MIXED AND STOCK-REARING FARM CARRYING AN ATTESTED PEDIGREE FRIESIAN HERD

VERY ATTRACTIVE HOUSE

3 BEDROOMS, 2 RECEPTION

Modern buildings with tying for 14.

CALF PENS, GRANARY, etc.

Main water throughout. Electricity.

74 ACRES

of useful land with some valuable timber.

VACANT POSSESSION

Illustrated auction particulars and plan of the Chartered Auctioneers, Godalming (Tel. 1722).

SURREY—HAMPSHIRE BORDER

Close to village, within 2½ miles of Farnham town and station. Electric to Waterloo.

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED MODERN RESIDENCE. 4 bedrooms, boxroom, tiled bathroom, 2 reception rooms, entrance hall, cloakroom, sun loggia. Main services, modern drainage. Built-in garage. Matured garden. **½ ACRE**

FREEHOLD £5,250 WITH POSSESSION

Farnham Office.

54, BAKER STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

DRUCE & Co. LTD.

ESTABLISHED 1822
WELbeck 4488 (20 lines)

Nr. AYLESBURY, BUCKS.

A MODERNISED PERIOD COTTAGE situate in a picturesque village a few miles from Aylesbury, and comprising 4 bedrooms, modern bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Garage. Garden with flower beds, rockeries and greenhouse. R.V. £17.

PRICE £3,250 FREEHOLD (C.2698)

CHORLEYWOOD, HERTS

A FINE DETACHED HOUSE comprising 4 bedrooms and dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 2 fine intercommunicating reception rooms, study and domestic offices, 2 good attic store rooms. **⅓ ACRE** well stocked garden with lily pond. All mains.

PRICE £5,000 FREEHOLD (C.2999)

WESTBROOK, KENT

A MODERN RESIDENCE facing gardens and sea, affording 5 bedrooms (4 with basins), 2 tiled modern bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, tiled kitchen with Aga. Full central heating. Garden. Greatly reduced for quick sale.

PRICE £2,800 FREEHOLD (C.2320)

ALDWICK BAY, SUSSEX

In a tree-lined avenue (200 yards from the sea).

THE HOUSE IS IN SUPERB ORDER and comprises 5 double bedrooms, modern bathroom with shower, 2 reception rooms (lounge 22 ft. by 20 ft.), modern kitchen. Garage. Garden. R.V. £56.

PRICE £6,750 FREEHOLD (C.406)

Nr. FAVERSHAM, KENT

AN EXCELLENT DETACHED RESIDENCE with lovely views and comprising 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen. Garage. Greenhouse. Modern poultry houses. Garden **½ ACRE** with numerous fruit trees (a further 4 acres available). All mains. R.V. £23.

PRICE ONLY £1,900 FREEHOLD (C.227)

NORTHIAM, SUSSEX

(London 57 miles.)

DETACHED DOUBLE-FRONTED BUNGALOW in excellent order and comprising 2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Large garden. Garage space.

PRICE £3,000 FREEHOLD (C.480)

Nr. DORKING, SURREY

A CHARMING BUNGALOW RESIDENCE delightfully situated amidst countrified surroundings and comprising 2 double bedrooms, reception room with dining recess, modern bathroom and kitchen. Garage (22 ft. by 15 ft.). Woodland garden of **1½ ACRES.** R.V. £25

PRICE £4,250 FREEHOLD (C.456)

BOURNEMOUTH
SOUTHAMPTON

FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON
WORTHING

Consequent upon the death of Major J. H. Meares.

NEW FOREST

In a delightful village only ¼ mile from Lyndhurst, about 10 miles Southampton and 19 miles Bournemouth. Commanding magnificent views.

THE VALUABLE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

CAMP HILL

EMERY DOWN, NEAR LYNDHURST

9 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, LOUNGE HALL, CLOAKROOM, MAID'S SITTING ROOM, KITCHEN AND OFFICES

GARAGE AND STABLE BLOCK

STORE HOUSES, GREENHOUSE AND OTHER USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS

Central heating. Main services.

Charming and beautifully laid out pleasure garden, also kitchen garden and paddock forming 4 choice building sites. Total area **ABOUT 2¾ ACRES**

VACANT POSSESSION of the whole

For SALE PRIVATELY or by AUCTION as a whole or in 6 lots in APRIL, 1956

Solicitors: Messrs. UNDERHILL, WILLCOCK & TAYLOR, 7, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton.
Auctioneers: FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth (Tel. 6300).

AVON VALLEY

Standing on high ground on the outskirts of Fordingbridge, within easy reach of Salisbury, Southampton and Bournemouth.

SPACIOUS BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

5 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen with independent boiler.

Main electricity and water.

BRICK GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS

Garden of about **½ ACRE**

PRICE £4,250 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton (Tel. 25155, 4 lines).

MEON VALLEY

Situated in the centre of a charming old village close to shops and church, within easy reach of Southampton, Winchester, Alton and Portsmouth.

DETACHED VILLAGE RESIDENCE

5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
EXCELLENT KITCHEN WITH RAYBURN

Main electricity. Automatic water. Mains available.

Large workshop. Detached garage. Playroom. Small loose box.

Pleasant garden of about **¾ ACRE**

PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton (Tel. 25155, 4 lines).

HAMPSHIRE COAST

3 minutes' walk from the sea and only a short distance from a popular golf course.

SUBSTANTIALLY CONSTRUCTED RESIDENCE

Luxuriously appointed with every modern convenience.

4 bedrooms, bathroom, observation room (from which extensive marine and country views are obtained), boxroom, 3 reception rooms, entrance hall, cloakroom, kitchen, breakfast room, laundry room.

Garage. Stable. Coach house. Garden shed.

Main services.

Delightful gardens and grounds, orchard, tennis lawn, about **1¾ ACRES**

PRICE £6,250 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth (Tel. 6300).

BRIGHTON

Enjoying delightful open southerly aspect in a tree-lined road with distant sea views. Close to the downs, golf course and bus service direct to Brighton Station.

IMPOSING DETACHED DOUBLE-FRONTED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

Comprising 4 bedrooms, dressing room, half-tiled bathroom, oak-panelled hall and dining room, parquet flooring, lounge, half-tiled cloakroom, spacious well-fitted kitchen

Dual hot-water system.

Part central heating.

DETACHED BRICK GARAGE

Pleasant well-stocked garden with lawn and fruit trees.

PRICE £5,600 FREEHOLD (offers invited). VACANT POSSESSION

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton (Tel. Hove 39201).

SUSSEX

Easy daily reach of London. Only 6 miles from Brighton.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE DETACHED MODERN RESIDENCE

On the South Downs and commanding magnificent views over a wide area of beautiful countryside.

4 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge hall, drawing room, dining room, study, sun loggia, large kitchen, conservatory.

Main electricity and water.

LARGE GARAGE
GREENHOUSE

Delightful well-stocked garden of over **½ ACRE**

PRICE £4,875 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton (Tel. Hove 39201, 7 lines).

ADJOINING HEATHLAND

Of particular interest to those seeking a secluded site suitable for retirement, poultry, pig or dog breeding. Close to New Forest. Romsey 4 miles, Lyndhurst 7 miles.

DETACHED BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

ABOUT 150 FEET ABOVE SEA-LEVEL WITH 2 BEDROOMS,
BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, KITCHENETTE

Private electricity. Well water.

Detached garage. Ample store buildings.

NATURAL GARDEN including heathland and woodland, in all about **4 ACRES**

PRICE £2,500 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton (Tel. 25155, 4 lines).

DITCHLING, SUSSEX

In a pleasant position on the outskirts of this delightful village within easy daily reach of London and close to the South Downs. Brighton 8 miles, London 44 miles.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE

Erected under an architect's supervision for the present owner.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, large lounge, dining room, cloakroom, kitchen.

All main services.

DETACHED GARAGE

ENCLOSED YARD

Pleasant garden.

PRICE £4,950 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton (Tel. Hove 39201, 7 lines).

ADJOINING THE NEW FOREST

In pleasant surroundings overlooking rural countryside.

ATTRACTIVE SMALL RESIDENCE

Situated short distance from the village and railway station.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen.

GARAGE 2 CARS

Numerous buildings.

Main electricity, gas and water.

The land consists of pleasure and kitchen gardens, lawn and a small portion of grass, the whole covering an area of about **2 ACRES**

PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth (Tel. 6300).

SACKVILLE HOUSE,
40, PICCADILLY, W.1
(*Entrance in Sackville Street*)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

Telephones:
REGent 2481
2482
2295

DORSET—SOMERSET BORDER. NEAR SHERBORNE

An interesting "VILLAGE HOUSE" on quiet roadside.

STONE-BUILT AND DATING FROM 16th CENTURY

WILL APPEAL TO THOSE WHO LIKE VILLAGE LIFE

Very charming interior, fully modernised and newly decorated. Nice hall with oak floor and staircase, 30-ft. lounge, 2 other receptions, 5 bedrooms, bathroom.

Partial central heating.
Agamatic boiler.
All main services.
GARAGE

Compact, partly walled and secluded garden at the rear; about a **1/3 ACRE**

Rates only £27 a year.

Easy reach Templecombe, Wincanton and Shaftesbury.

FOR SALE AT £4,750

Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

BERKSHIRE—OXFORDSHIRE BORDER

UNSPOILED POSITION 400 FT. UP

Amidst the beautifully wooded hills between Streatley and Bradfield, 4½ miles Pangbourne.

MOST CAPTIVATING SMALL MODERN HOUSE

Built by architect for own occupation. Presenting the best in design, planning and quality of construction. Hall and cloakroom, 2 receptions (one is 24 ft. by 15 ft.), model kitchen with "happy" outlook, 3 bedrooms, tiled bathroom.

Partial central heating.
Aga cooker and water heater.
Main services.
GARAGE

GARDEN about 3 years old. 2 PADDOCKS.

£4,950 WITH 2 ACRES

Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

IN THE HEART OF THE COTSWOLD COUNTRY

NEAR STOW AND MORETON-IN-MARSH

Hunting with the Heythrop. Under 2 hours London.

AN ELIZABETHAN HOUSE

in the traditional stone-built and stone-tiled style. Secluded and sheltered position 400 ft. up on edge of a village. 33-ft. lounge, dining room, lounge hall, 5 or 6 bedrooms (basins), 2 baths.

Central heating.
Main services.
BARN/GARAGE
4 LOOSE BOXES

Tennis court, garden, orchard, large paddock; all on a gentle south slope.

£7,750 WITH 9 ACRES

2 cottages available nearby with vacant possession.

Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

ON THE SURREY AND HAMPSHIRE BORDER

Secluded position about 3 miles from Camberley and 2½ miles from Farnborough main line station with excellent trains to Waterloo 50 minutes. Accessible to Reading and Guildford.

REALLY COMFORTABLE HOME

With a Bright and Spacious Interior

Well back from the road in nicely timbered and well stocked gardens.

Short drive approach.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 4 or 5 bedrooms, 2 modern bathrooms.

Plenty of cupboards.

Mains.

LARGE GARAGE

FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 1½ ACRES

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead, Berks. (Tel.: Maidenhead 53), and F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

MAIDENHEAD
SUNNINGDALE

GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSS

GERRARDS CROSS

Convenient for station and shops.

A COMPACT CHARACTER RESIDENCE IN A SELECT SITUATION. 4 main bedrooms, 2 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, etc. Agamatic boiler. Garage. Well kept grounds.

Offers invited for the Freehold prior to Auction.

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Gerrards Cross (Tel. 3987).

A CHARMING
17th CENTURY COTTAGE

In a rural position yet electric train service to London.

A delightful Country Retreat, completely modernised and redecorated, secluded and most picturesque, 2-3 bedrooms, bathroom, 1-2 reception rooms, breakfast room-kitchen. Garage, stabling. Gardens of **1 ACRE.**

Owner going abroad. Immediate sale required.

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Sunningdale. (Tel. Ascot 73).

EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT
ENGLEFIELD GREEN

6 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 staff rooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and maids' sitting room, cloakroom. Brick and tile garage block with rooms over. Grounds of **2 ACRES** with long frontages to two roads suitable as four building sites.

For Sale at Auction, February, 1956, unless sold before.

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Windsor (Tel. 73).

WINCHESTER
FLEET
FARNBOROUGH

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

HARTLEY WINTNEY
ALDERSHOT
ALRESFORD

FIVE SMALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE

IN NORTH HAMPSHIRE

MODERN COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE. Secluded woodland setting, few minutes bus route and 3 miles market town. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, cloaks and 2 reception rooms. **£3,300.** (**Part could remain on mortgage**

BUNGALOW ENTRANCE LODGE needing modernising but CAPABLE for CONVERSION into small country residence. 6 rooms, bathroom and scullery. **£1,50**)

MATURED NURSERY GARDEN with modern bungalow, orchard and field. **10 ACRES.** High position close to village. **£3,850.** An ideal little property for semi-retirement.

PICTURESQUE COTTAGE in quiet position, 1¼ miles market town, close to bus route and general stores. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms and kitchen. RECENTLY MODERNISED. **£1,850**

A COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CONVENIENT SIZE. In secluded position on high ground between Camberley and Reading. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, cloak room and 3 reception rooms. **1 ACRE. £4,200**

For full particulars apply: ALFRED PEARSON & SON, Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

Lewes
Ipswich
Builth Wells
Beaulieu

STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER

HEAD OFFICE: 41, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1. (GRO. 3056).

Chelmsford
Oxford
Plymouth
Andover

SOMERSET/WILTSHIRE BORDERS

Frome 3 miles. Trowbridge 5 miles. Bath 10 miles.

MODERNISED STONE-BUILT PERIOD HOUSE

In charming old world village. In first class order throughout with all modern conveniences

2 RECEPTION ROOMS, BILLIARDS ROOM, 6-7 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS.

Central heating throughout. Main services.

Garage for 2 cars and outbuildings.

COTTAGE

Gardens and grounds including kitchen garden and paddocks.

IN ALL ABOUT 3 ACRES FOR SALE

Apply: Head Office, as above.

WEST SUSSEX—CHICHESTER

About 1¼ miles from station with fast trains to London.

WELL-FITTED MODERN HOUSE IN EXCELLENT ORDER THROUGHOUT

ENTRANCE HALL
CLOAKROOM
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
5 BEDROOMS (all with basins)
BATHROOM

Part central heating by "Janitor."

All main services.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Easily maintained garden and kitchen garden.

IN ALL ABOUT 1 ACRE. PRICE £6,950

Apply: Head Office, as above.

SUSSEX

In a lovely position high up and on outskirts of village.

A FASCINATING TUDOR RESIDENCE

Beautifully restored, modernised and in excellent order.

2 HALLS, 4 RECEPTION, 5 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS

Main electricity and gas. Good water supply. Septic tank drainage.

FINE OLD OAK TIMBERS

(not low ceilings), old tiled roof. Interesting example of Sussex architecture of about A.D. 1550. Lovely garden. Useful outbuildings.

IN ALL ABOUT 6 ACRES FOR SALE

Apply: Head Office, as above or 201, High Street, Lewes (Tel. 1425).

ESSEX

On the outskirts of Chelmsford. With excellent service of fast trains to London in 40 minutes.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

In good order and in a pleasant position with unspoilt views.

3 RECEPTION, 5 BEDROOMS (basins h. and c.), BATHROOM.

Main electricity, water and drainage

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS.

Well stocked and maintained garden with heated greenhouse. Kitchen garden and small paddock.

PRICE £5,750

Apply: Coval Hall, Chelmsford, Tel. 4681, or Head Office, as above.

SURREY—VIRGINIA WATER

London 35 minutes by excellent train service. Occupying a quiet and secluded position on the well-known Wentworth Estate.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-FITTED MODERN HOUSE

In first-class order throughout

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 2 STAFF ROOMS AND 3rd BATHROOM.

Central heating throughout. All main services.

GARAGE FOR 2-3 CARS

Landscape garden, well stocked and easily maintained.

IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Apply: Head Office, as above.

OXON/BERKS BORDERS

Witney 5 miles, Farringdon 6 miles.

CHARMING WILLIAM AND MARY STONE-BUILT HOUSE

situated in a pleasant position in an old market town.

Modernised and in good order throughout.

2 RECEPTION ROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS,

BATHROOM, 2 STAFF ROOMS.

Central heating. Main electricity, water and gas.

GARAGE AND STABLING.

Easily maintained well-stocked garden and walled kitchen garden.

IN ALL ABOUT THREE-QUARTERS OF AN ACRE

PRICE £5,650

Apply: 14, St. Giles, Oxford (Tel. 57725), or Head Office, as above.

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING (Tel.: Reading 54018 and 54019)

THE HOME OF A WELL-KNOWN AUTHOR

SUPERB WEST SURREY SITUATION

300 feet up with a south view extending some 12 miles over loveliest country.

A BEAUTIFULLY BRIGHT HOUSE, PLANNED ENTIRELY ON 2 FLOORS

Secluded with avenue drive, in easily kept garden, but only a short walk from bus route, 3 miles from main line station, to London in ½ hour and near extensive commons affording unrivalled riding and walking facilities.

Lounge hall, cloaks, 3 reception, good offices with maid's room, 5 beds., (2 have dressing rooms adjacent), bath., also self-contained wing of 2 beds. and bath.

MAINS, CENTRAL HEATING, DOUBLE GARAGE

EXCELLENT FLAT of 3 rooms, kitchen, bath and w.c. Lawns, orchard, woodland.

ALMOST 3 ACRES

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE. £6,750

Strongly recommended by the Agents, as above.

CLARKE, GAMMON & EMERYS

GUILDFORD GODALMING HINDHEAD LIPHOOK

LIPHOOK, HANTS

Outskirts of the village with buses to Haslemere and Liphook Stations.

NEWLY BUILT DETACHED HOUSE. Square hall, cloakroom, lounge 17 ft. 6 in. by 11 ft., DINING ROOM 10 ft. by 10 ft. with polished hardwood floor, 3 good bedrooms with fitted cupboards, well-fitted KITCHEN and BATHROOM, sep. w.c. GARAGE. **PRICE £3,250 FREEHOLD.** Large mortgage still available.

JUST OFF THE DOWNS AND GOLF COURSE

MERROW, GUILDFORD (1½ miles).

A DETACHED HOUSE of a small individual type in the best residential area. Hall and w.c., 2 sitting, 3 bed. and bath rooms, kitchen, workroom. All main services. Large garage. Attractive garden. **PRICE £3,500**

PITCH HILL, EWHURST, SURREY

Near village and buses to Cranleigh and Guildford.

A COUNTRY COTTAGE WITH LARGE ROOMS. CHARMING GARDEN **1½ ACRES.** Raftered lounge hall/dining room 18 ft. 7 in. by 10 ft. 9 in., lounge 21 ft. by 19 ft., cloakroom, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Main services and septic tank. Large garage and 2 rooms above. **£4,400 for the whole or £3,500 with ¾ acre.**

GEORGIAN or MODERN HOUSE with FARM WANTED

3 reception and 5-6 bedrooms. Cottage. Up to **100 acres.** SURREY, SUSSEX or HANTS PREFERRED. Owners or Agents invited to send particulars for Mrs. N.

COMMISSION REQUIRED

Tel. MAYfair 0023-4

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS

130, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

WORLINGTON, SUFFOLK

(Newmarket 8 miles, Cambridge 18 miles.)
Ideally situated in this attractive village close to the famous Royal Worlington golf course.

MODERNISED PERIOD COTTAGE

built of brick and with a tiled roof. 4 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and bathroom.
ALL MAIN SERVICES
Garage. Small garden.

PRICE £2,300 or very near offer.

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Bury St. Edmunds (Tel. 135).

SUFFOLK

FRAMLINGHAM 2 miles

VERY ATTRACTIVE T.T. DAIRY FARM

MODERNISED 17th-CENTURY RESIDENCE

4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception, cloakroom. Usual offices. Service flat. Model farm buildings. **32 ACRES**

VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £4,850 FREEHOLD

Apply Stowmarket.

NORFOLK—SUFFOLK BORDERS

PRODUCTIVE SMALL FARM WITH COMFORTABLE FARMHOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 reception. Main services. Well-maintained buildings, ideal for intensive poultry.

23 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £3,500 FREEHOLD

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Stowmarket (Tel. 384).

HERTFORDSHIRE

In small picturesque country town.

A GENUINE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Suitable for private occupation and/or business purposes. 3 reception, study, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Garage and stabling. Walled garden with swimming pool.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

Very reasonable price for early sale.

MORTGAGE AVAILABLE

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, 130, Mount Street, W.1. (Folio 3695)

TO LET

IPSWICH 7 miles.

MODERNISED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception, cloakroom, kitchen. Garage and gardens.

To let, unfurnished on lease.

RENT £150 PER ANNUM

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Stowmarket (Tel. 135).

HERTS—ESSEX BORDER

In the much sought-after Audley End district.

GENUINE 15th-CENTURY RESIDENCE of great historical and architectural interest

2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, etc. Main water and electricity. Self-contained cottage which can be incorporated into main house at a later date.

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO ANYONE SEEKING A SMALL VILLAGE HOUSE OF OUTSTANDING CHARACTER

Details from: R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, 1, Guildhall Street, Cambridge. (Tel. 54233/4) or as above.

And at NORWICH, STOWMARKET, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, CAMBRIDGE, HADLEIGH and HOLT

ESTATE HOUSE, 62, KING STREET, MAIDENHEAD

CYRIL JONES & PARTNERS

Maidenhead 2033 (3 lines)

LUXURY RIVERSIDE RESIDENCE

BETWEEN WINDSOR AND STAINES

CHARMING ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE

With 3-4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen. Detached brick and tiled garage with automatic opening doors. Garden with 90 ft. river frontage.

OFFERS INVITED (Ref. 4295)

BETWEEN MARLOW AND HENLEY

CHARMING BRICK AND FLINT LUXURY COTTAGE

Completely restored and modernised with delightful views of the surrounding country. Containing 3 bedrooms (all with basins), capital bathroom, 2 reception rooms. Main electricity and water. Delightful natural gardens and grounds extending to

ABOUT 6 ACRES

Full particulars of CYRIL JONES & PARTNERS, as above.

PINKNEYS GREEN, NEAR MAIDENHEAD

A CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE

Overlooking National Trust Land. Containing 4 bedrooms and dressing room, bathroom, separate w.c., 2 reception rooms, study, kitchen, maids' sitting room.

Garage for 2 cars. Attractive gardens fronting Maidenhead Thicket. Main electricity, water and drainage.

Immediate sale required

OFFERS INVITED (Ref. 966)

BRAY, BERKS

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN COTTAGE RESIDENCE with whitened exterior and half timbering. In a quiet situation, close to the river. 3 bedrooms, half-tiled bathroom, 2 reception rooms, loggia, cloakroom, kitchen. Garden with lawns, etc. Excellent garage. Main electricity, gas and water. Modern drainage. Partial central heating. **PRICE £4,500**

Owner's Agents: CYRIL JONES & PARTNERS, as above. (Ref. 90)

Tel. GERRARDS CROSS 2094 and 2510

HETHERINGTON & SECRETT, F.A.I.

BEACONSFIELD 249 EALING 2648/9

ESTATE OFFICES: GERRARDS CROSS, BEACONSFIELD, AND AT EALING, LONDON, W.5.

PENN — BUCKS

A BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE

Commanding a lovely view.

A well equipped and manageable modern House in excellent order

Large hall, cloakroom, 2 reception, sun room, 4-5 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen (with Aga).

Main Services.

Garden room, 2 garages in delightful low upkeep grounds of **2 ACRES**

VACANT POSSESSION

Rateable value only £42.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT ONLY £6,250

Sole Agents: HETHERINGTON & SECRETT, F.A.I. (as above).

BEACONSFIELD

NEW ARCHITECT DESIGNED HOUSES AND CHALET BUNGALOWS

Excellent sites, adjoining National Trust woodlands and Green Belt, with 72 ft. frontages.

MANY DIFFERENT DESIGNS OF 3 AND 4 BEDROOM HOUSES AND CHALET BUNGALOWS TO SELECT FROM

All properties are built to a high standard and are well fitted including wood block floors and tiled bathroom and kitchen.

All main services available. No road charges.

SUBSTANTIAL MORTGAGES ARRANGED

PRICES FROM £4,000 FREEHOLD

Full particulars may be obtained from HETHERINGTON & SECRETT, F.A.I. (as above).

4, HIGH STREET, ALTON, HANTS. Tel. Alton 2261/2.

CURTIS & WATSON

The Estate Offices, HARTLEY WINTNEY Tel. Hartley Wintney 296/7

BETWEEN ALTON AND ODIHAM

TUDOR-STYLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE

In Hampshire Hunt Country

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 modern bathrooms. Complete Offices. *Main electric light, power and water.* Gardens and grounds extend to approximately

8 ACRES

FREEHOLD £6,250

NORTH HANTS

Convenient Basingstoke and Farnham. 1 mile Hook station with main line service.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Panelled hall, 3-4 reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms (basins h. and c.), 2 bathrooms modern domestic offices with 'Aga'. *Company's water and electricity (central heating).* 3 GARAGES. Pleasantly laid out secluded gardens. Low upkeep. IN ALL **2¼ ACRES.**

VACANT POSSESSION. FREEHOLD £5,950

WANTED

NEAR BASINGSTOKE

GEORGIAN, REGENCY or QUEEN ANNE HOUSE.

4 RECEPTION ROOMS, 10 BEDROOMS.

Minimum area of land **50 ACRES.**

Replies to "Edge".

Usual Commission required

WANTED

SOUTH AND WEST SUSSEX OR SOUTH-EAST DEVON

ATTESTED FARM. At least one cottage.
MODERN HOUSE PREFERRED.
Medium soil.
2-3 reception rooms, 4-5 bedrooms.

100 TO 150 ACRES

Replies to "D.J.V.B."

Usual commission required.

HANTS—SURREY BORDERS

Convenient Bentley Station

GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Domestic offices, *Company's water, gas, electric light.* Stabling, garage. Walled garden and paddock. In all **2½ ACRES.**

FREEHOLD £4,950

HANTS—SURREY BORDERS

ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Built regardless of cost

3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 5 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, separate staff flat. *Company's water, electric light.* Garages and stabling, modern piggeries. Attractive pleasure grounds, woodlands and lakes.

IN ALL ABOUT **40 ACRES**

VACANT POSSESSION. FREEHOLD £8,250

ESTATE
KENsington 1490
Telegrams:
"Estate, Harrods, London"

HARRODS

32, 34 and 36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

OFFICES
Southampton, West Byfleet
Haslemere and Berkhamsted

16th-CENTURY RESIDENCE IN BUCKS

Amidst pleasant surroundings about 1½ miles from Marlow.

A HOUSE OF CHARM AND CHARACTER

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Central heating.

Main electric light and water.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

Large barn and useful outbuildings.

Pleasure grounds with lawn and orchard, also meadow land, total area **ABOUT 12½ ACRES**

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AS A WHOLE OR WITH ABOUT 1½ ACRES

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 807.)

NEAR AYLESBURY—ONLY £3,950 FREEHOLD

Secluded but not isolated.

A LONG, LOW RESIDENCE WITH A HANDSOME GEORGIAN PORCH

LARGE ROOMS

Main services.

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms (2 h. and c.), bathroom.

DOUBLE GARAGE

STABLING

Two-storey building, 60 ft. long, used as kennels.

Garden, orchard, etc.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

POSSESSION

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 809), and The Old Manor House, 112, High Street, Berkhamsted (*Telephone* 666).

1 HOUR LONDON—FAVOURITE PART OF ESSEX

Handy for first-rate sailing facilities.

QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE, MELLOWED RED BRICK AND TILED ROOF

Entrance and inner halls, 3 very fine reception rooms, a principal suite of bedroom, dressing room and bathroom, first-rate nursery suite, in all 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms (basins h. and c. in all bedrooms), good domestic offices.

Companys' electric light and power. Excellent water and drainage. 2 GARAGES

Useful outbuildings.

First-rate cottage.

Beautiful grounds with box and yew hedges, rose garden, herbaceous borders, lawns, kitchen garden.

Paddock, in all just over **8 ACRES,** bounded by a river affording fishing, etc.

ONLY £8,950 FREEHOLD

Full particulars from the Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806).

OUTSTANDING PROPERTY ON SOUTH DEVON COAST

Lovely situation commanding fine sea and landscape views. Practically adjoining golf links and few minutes sea.

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE ON 2 FLOORS ONLY

Architect designed and very well built.

Square hall, 2 reception rooms, fine loggia, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Aga cooker.

Central heating.

Main services.

GARAGES

Beautifully displayed gardens, but easily kept up, including fruit and kitchen garden, in all **ABOUT 1½ ACRES**

Gateway to common leading to golf links.

PRICE £6,800 OR CLOSE OFFER

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. RIPPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I., 8, Queen Street, Exeter (*Telephone* 59378), and HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 810).

UNSPOILT PART OF ESSEX

Near Saffron Walden.

GENUINE 15th-CENTURY BLACK AND WHITE RESIDENCE

forming an ideal small Country Retreat.

2 good reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, model offices.

Full of heavy oak beams. Lofty rooms with plenty of light.

GARAGE FOR 4 CARS

Small secondary Residence with large lounge, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, etc., ideal for married couple.

Electric light.

Central heating.

Excellent water and drainage.

IN ALL JUST OVER 2 ACRES. MORTGAGEE'S BARGAIN

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806.)

WALLINGTON AND PURLEY BORDERS

About 13 miles south of town, close buses, station, shops, schools and golf courses.

A DETACHED GABLED RESIDENCE OF THE OLDER STYLE

Occupying a corner site on 2 floors only and recently modernised and redecorated regardless of expense. Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, sun loggia, conservatory, breakfast room, 6 bedrooms (one with h. and c.), dressing room (h. and c.), luxury bathroom.

Ample electric light and power points. Oil-fired central heating throughout.

GARAGE.

Very pleasant garden with paved paths, lawns, young fruit and ornamental trees.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD with all fitted carpets, curtains and pelmets.

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 828.)

SUFFOLK. Constable's Country.

Easy reach of main line station, on the outskirts of an old world village.

A genuine TUDOR GEM with much exposed oak and scheduled as an ancient monument.

Galleried staircase, hall, 3 reception rooms, 5/7 bed. and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices.

Companies' water, electric light and power.

Partial central heating.

GARAGE FOR 2

Useful outbuildings.

Full of oak beams, open fireplaces, etc.

Delightful grounds with clipped yew hedges, specimen trees, well-stocked kitchen garden, paddock, in all between **3-4 ACRES**

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806.)

ADJOINING AND

OVERLOOKING BICKLEY PARK CRICKET GROUND

Close station and bus service, within easy reach of first-class schools, shopping and sporting facilities.

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE

Built about 1932-3, standing well back from the road, approached by a drive.

Spacious hall, cloakroom, 3 well-proportioned reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, (2 with h. and c.), dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 2 staff rooms. Parquet floors.

Partial central heating.

GARAGE

GREENHOUSE

Tennis lawn.

Delightful garden of about **1 ACRE,** with lawns, lily pool, fruit and other trees and thousands of bulbs.

ONLY £7,000 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 828.)

40 MINS. SOUTH OF TOWN

Easy reach of the Sussex coast.

CHARMING 15th-CENTURY FARMHOUSE

full of oak beams.

Lounge hall, 2 good reception rooms, downstairs cloakroom, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, good offices.

GARAGE and other useful outbuildings.

Companies' water, electric light and power.

Modern drainage.

Well-established grounds with ornamental trees and shrubs, in all

1 ACRE

ONLY £4,750. Additional 8 acres available if desired.

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806.)

SOMERSET

In the triangle Taunton-Yeovil and Bridgwater.

A COMPLETELY MODERNISED HOUSE IN THE REGENCY STYLE

On 2 floors only with newly installed oil-fired central heating, Aga cooker and Agamatic boiler. *South aspect. Beautiful views. Bus passes drive gates.* Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, playroom, 8 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. *Main electricity and water. Septic tank drainage.* COTTAGE, GARAGES, STABLING, etc. Finely timbered garden, parklike pasture, woodland copses, in all **ABOUT 30 ACRES.** (24 acres pasture all in hand.) **BARGAIN £8,750**

FREEHOLD POSSESSION

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806-810.)

classified properties

AUCTIONS

See also Auction column inside front cover

KENT, KNOCKHOLT, "CHELSFIELD GRANGE"

Charming period house, mainly Tudor, part Georgian, 5-6 beds., 3 reception, good offices, garage for 2 or more cars. ½ acre matured gardens. Auction February 8, 1956, or privately now. Auctioneers:

R. W. INNISS & CO., F.A.L.P.A.

247, High St., Orpington, Kent. Tel. Orpington 21076.

By direction of the Executors of Sir J. A. Arnesby Brown, R.A.

NORFOLK-SUFFOLK BORDER

Norwich 16 miles, convenient for the Coast and the Broads.

"THE WHITE HOUSE," HADDISCOE

The residential property, on high ground in delightful surroundings.

Lot 1. Small Georgian Residence of character. (Main electricity, main water available.) ¾-acre easily maintained, well-stocked garden. Possession.

Lot 2. Orchard and Wild Garden, 14 acres. Also arable land adjoining mostly as let. By Auction (unless sold previously), on January 30 at Beccles.

Illustrated particulars of

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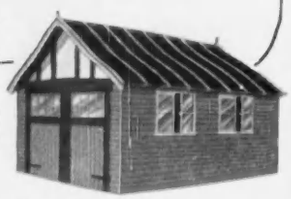

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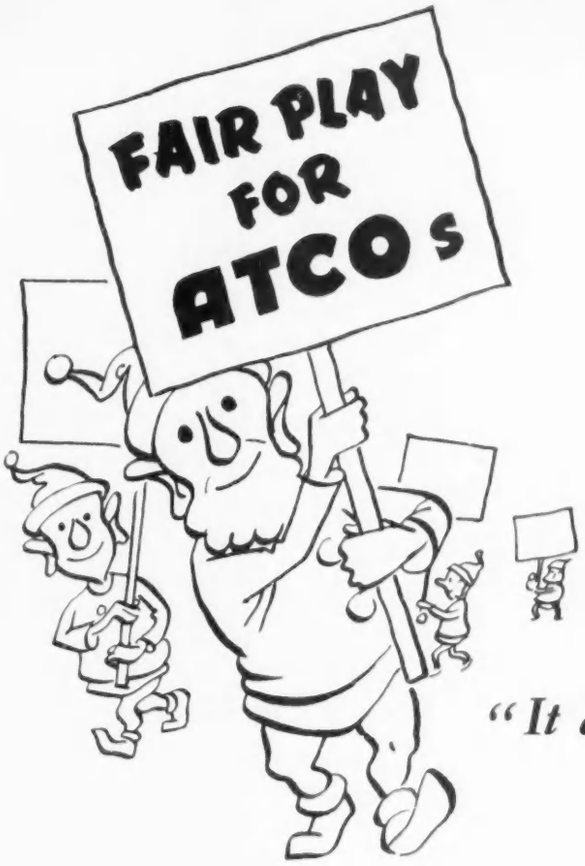

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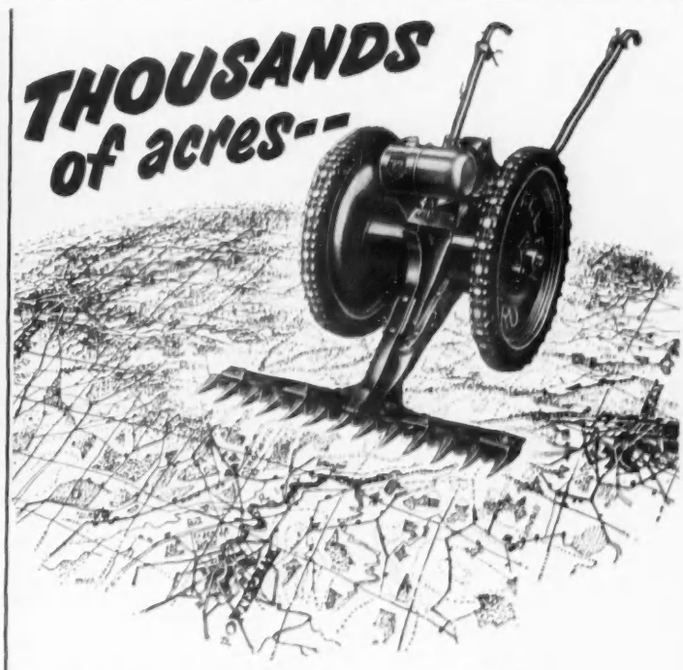

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This Town Hall, designed by Joseph Hansom, inventor of the cab that bore his name, is famed for its Musical Festivals. Mendelssohn's Elijah was first performed at one of these; and later, in 1840, the great composer himself played on the Hall's wonderful organ.

Midland folk are clear-minded; not guided by what the other man says but by their own sound reasoning and judgment. No wonder that throughout the whole of the Midlands, as in Birmingham itself—a one-wayed wonder to the visiting motorist—the little red Brooke Bond vans are such a familiar sight.

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIX No. 3078 JANUARY 12, 1956

Bassano

MISS ALISON MARGARET MacLEOD

Miss Alison Margaret MacLeod, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alistair B. MacLeod, of 5, Parkside-gardens, Wimbledon, S.W.19, is to be married on February 18 to Mr. Rowan Balfour Hutchison, son of Lt.-Gen. Sir Balfour and Lady Hutchison, of Rendham Court, Saxmundham, Suffolk

COUNTRY LIFE

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FARMING IN RUSSIA

AN interesting account was given by Sir Peter Greenwell to the Farmers' Club of the visit to Russia last autumn of the agricultural delegation led by Mr. G. R. H. Nugent. Though the party were there for only a fortnight, they evidently saw a great deal, not only in the old-established farming areas, but as far afield as Kazakhstan and Alma-ata, where the plan to plough up 75,000,000 acres of virgin soil has been started. This vast undertaking was begun two years ago as part of the measures then instituted to increase food supplies, following failures to reach targets and a fall in livestock products under the traditional farming system, in regions many of which have experienced two wars.

In the old districts the ratio of collective to State farms is generally 6 to 1, and the collectives range from 3,500 to 67,000 acres. A collective farm somewhat resembles a manor under our feudal system, a member corresponding to a villein and possessing a private plot of from ½ to 2½ acres and having to work a minimum number (on one farm it was 200) of labour units collectively. A labour unit can apparently be worked in about half a day, for which 5s. and a payment in kind are given, and a worker's total receipts vary according to a farm's profit over the year. The chronic shortage is that of winter feeding-stuffs, with a consequently low standard of livestock and milk production, to counter which the growth of maize for silage has been forced up. The development of the steppes has been put in hand to compensate for the resulting decline in wheat yield.

The virgin soil undertaking is obviously comparable to the opening up of the Middle West in the United States during last century—with the considerable difference that it is expected to be done in a few years. "One flew for hours on end," Sir Peter said, "over tracts of steppe land apparently hundreds of miles from any habitation. But the land had been broken, some had grown wheat this year. It was not just one great field, for there seemed to be bits which could not be ploughed; but the virgin soils we saw were good loams. Elsewhere we saw much lighter lands, where wind erosion could do great damage. Water is the limiting factor: the average rainfall, including snow, is only 10 in. a year." The 1955 wheat yields in these areas ranged from 4 to 6 cwt. per acre. The new State farms are apparently of about 85,000 acres, though one of a million was referred to, and the necessary villages, access roads and tractor stations have in most cases to be built.

The machine tractor stations have important executive and directive powers, in that the chairmen of collectives sit on their boards alongside the scientific and engineering experts, under the stations' managers, who control all the tractors. Russia is fully mechanised as regards the main farming operations, and the machinery is not unlike American products, massive and well made. The large tractors, which have tracks, have diesel engines and cost, with their equipment, about £1,100. Correspondingly large tools are used: hay-rakes 50 ft. wide, mowers with five cutter-bars and 21-ft. trailer combines. The acreage harvested by a machine, about 500, is higher than ours, but the weight of corn, say 150 tons, is lower. The visitors thought that the ploughing lacked finish, and the cultivation looked doubtful, but weeds did not seem to be a problem. Shortage of spare parts, the working of machines beyond their economic life, and, in all the newer lands, lack of labour force, produced the headaches.

To meet this, agriculture has been awarded a much higher priority in manpower, mechanisation and training than it had. Success on the virgin soils will, no doubt, vary according to rainfall, but in a good year a large grain surplus may be expected, with consequent impact on the world's grain market.

GRANTS TO HISTORIC HOUSES

THE grants authorised for historic buildings during the last quarter of 1955 are well distributed over types, periods and localities. The old manor houses include Little Sodbury (Gloucestershire), Trerice (Cornwall) and Queen Hoo and Salisbury Hall (Hertfordshire), the last a remarkable and little known Tudor and Jacobean building. Another, Salisbury House, at Edmonton, recalls how some London villages retain a country house well worth preserving; though Dr. Johnson's historic house in Gough-square, off Fleet-street, carries its own title to reprieve. Among country-town buildings, the Guildhall, Much Wenlock (Shropshire), and the Bastards' noble Corn Exchange at Blandford (Dorset) are helped. Of the country houses perhaps Ashdown, solitary on the Berkshire Downs, is the most important, as representing Inigo Jones, though Loseley (Surrey), Rousham (Oxfordshire), Aynhoe (Northamptonshire) and Creech Grange (Dorset) are all outstanding. Adam's Newby Hall (Yorkshire) and Kent's Holkham (Norfolk) get grants—Holkham an additional one for long-term repairs to the roof. An unusual grant is that to Ebberston Hall (Yorkshire) for the reinstatement of a lake, which lately burst its dam and so disfigures, instead of adorning, a public landscape; while that for the canals and temples of Bramham Hall—Yorkshire's Versailles—is a most welcome one. But a sad instance of the present system's failure to rescue a famous house in need is afforded by the announcement that Cobham Hall, Kent, is for sale.

MIDWINTER

THIS is the Sleeping Beauty's time:
The trees make spiders' webs to grip the earth;
Their branches net the sky and hold it down,
Insentient, grey, image of winter's dearth.

The trees reflected hold the river still:
In moveless meadows silent cattle stand.
Beauty has pricked her finger; time's no more,
Can no more fret this numb, enchanted land.

P. M. GINGELL.

MACHINES IN THE GARDEN

MORE and more owners of larger gardens are turning to mechanical cultivators as labour becomes scarcer and dearer; and there is now available a large range of machines, varying in power and price. At first garden cultivators were merely scaled down versions of agricultural tractors, but the invention of the rotary hoe gave a new line of approach which is now widely used. Many small garden machines have an apparent versatility in the range of attachments which can be supplied with them, and permit ploughing, "rotavation" and hoeing. However, Sir William Godfrey, an authority on these tools, suggested at a recent meeting of the Horticultural Club that in fact many of them carry out their various tasks with only 50 per cent. efficiency. The power output is not readily diverted from, say, rotation to pull, though static take-off power, operating hedge trimmers, saws and the like, works well. In addition, Sir William suggested that much time is wasted on changing attachments. Attractive as the principle appears of having one power unit to many attachments, it seems that ingenuity has not yet come up to the achievement of high efficiency in low-powered multi-purpose tools. This leaves a clear challenge to the engineers.

SHELD-DUCK SPARED

IT is good to know that the Air Ministry has agreed to restrict live bombing on the Grosser Knechtsand, in the Heligoland Bight, where large numbers of sheld-duck gather for their summer moult. Since the autumn of 1953 this great sandbank between the mouths of the Weser and the Elbe has been used as a bombing range instead of Heligoland. In July sheld-duck, large handsome black, white and chestnut birds that look more like geese than duck, arrive there in considerable numbers from many parts of northern Europe and from Britain: last August as many as 75,000 were counted. During the late summer they are particularly vulnerable, having moulted their flight feathers and so lost their means of escape. How many have been killed by bombing so far is open to question, but the remains of 13,000 are said to have been found in the area. The Ministry's decision is especially welcome in this country, for, so far as is known, all our sheld-duck go to the Heligoland Bight area to moult except those that repair for the summer to Bridgwater Bay, in Somerset.

"UTTER BILGE"

PROFESSOR WOOLLEY, the new Astronomer Royal, has been getting under the skin of all those who cultivate the mysterious or the sublime and look forward to a Jules Verne world, in particular the inter-planetary voyagers and the believers in flying saucers. Of the former he declares in most unprofessional language that it is "all bilge," or alternatively "all rather rot." As for the saucers, he was once woken up by the R.A.F. at 3 a.m. to see one and found that it was the planet Mars. These are discouraging remarks, which have been answered with becoming solemnity by true believers, and there at the moment the matter rests. From the point of view of the authors who make a large income by writing thrilling stories of space travel, it is cheering to think that all their small boy readers will regard the Astronomer Royal as a presumptuous and ill-conditioned person and pay no attention to him whatever. As to the rest of us, or at least the older of us, it is tolerably certain that we shall be dead long before the first rocket has taken its passengers to the moon; so we can make bets one way or the other with a light heart.

BURIED TREASURE

THERE is an eternal fascination in hidden and particularly in buried treasure. "See what men put away and forget, or mean to destroy, and don't," exclaimed Mr. Boffin after having *The Treasures of a Dunghill* read aloud to him, and many of us can still remember the unspeakable thrill with which we first heard *Treasure Island*. This enthusiasm is shared in an eminently rewarding manner by an enterprising thirteen-year-old, Master Howard Thomas, of Barry. Ruins, especially ruined castles, are his delight, and clearly he has the instincts of an archæologist, for he noticed at Penmark Castle a vaulted recess near a tower that looked promising. He had hoped for a dungeon, but he found a dried-milk tin which contained £477 in notes. A milk tin is not in itself a romantic object and is painfully modern, so that it may be that the owner of the buried treasure may turn up and claim his own, but everyone with anything left in him of boyish romance will hope not, and that this meritorious young gentleman will receive the proceeds of his search. He wants to spend it on learning to be an archæologist, and his is a much more practical and sensible form of that science than the opening of an ancient tomb because it "may possibly" contain papers to prove that Marlowe wrote Shakespeare. *The Spectator* has neatly summed it up: "If Marlowe wrote Shakespeare, Marlowe did not write Marlowe."

A Countryman's Notes

By **IAN MIALL**

WE hardly dare admit it yet, but we are developing a complex about calling the plumber, mainly because the pipes are old and the plumber is a pessimist who looks at the water bubbling up from the ground and says: "Should have it all out and renewed. If I mend it, it'll only go again." That "if" makes us feel we have consulted not a plumber but a surgeon, upon whom rests the responsibility of operating or not operating. The plumber shakes his head, and his look indicates that we are in a bad way. We have no right to possess such pipes. We feel ourselves to be a disgrace, but only while in "the presence"! Most of the time our admittedly rather old plumbing gives us no trouble, for we have very little frost.

* * *

IT isn't so much the trouble of getting the plumber to the cottage. That can be done without difficulty. We mention casually that we have a burst and some ale to be sampled and he comes. We keep a barrel of wine in the potting shed and he is welcome to take his fill. Usually we bring him by car. By the time he has had his ale and told us how he helped to clean up Belsen, which he does to make our hair stand on end, we can persuade him to look at the pipes. Sometimes he breaks off to add some new horror to his experiences as a liberator, but he never tells us not to worry about our pipes and, in consequence of his rather morbid outlook on both humanity and water mains, we tend not to call him except in dire emergency.

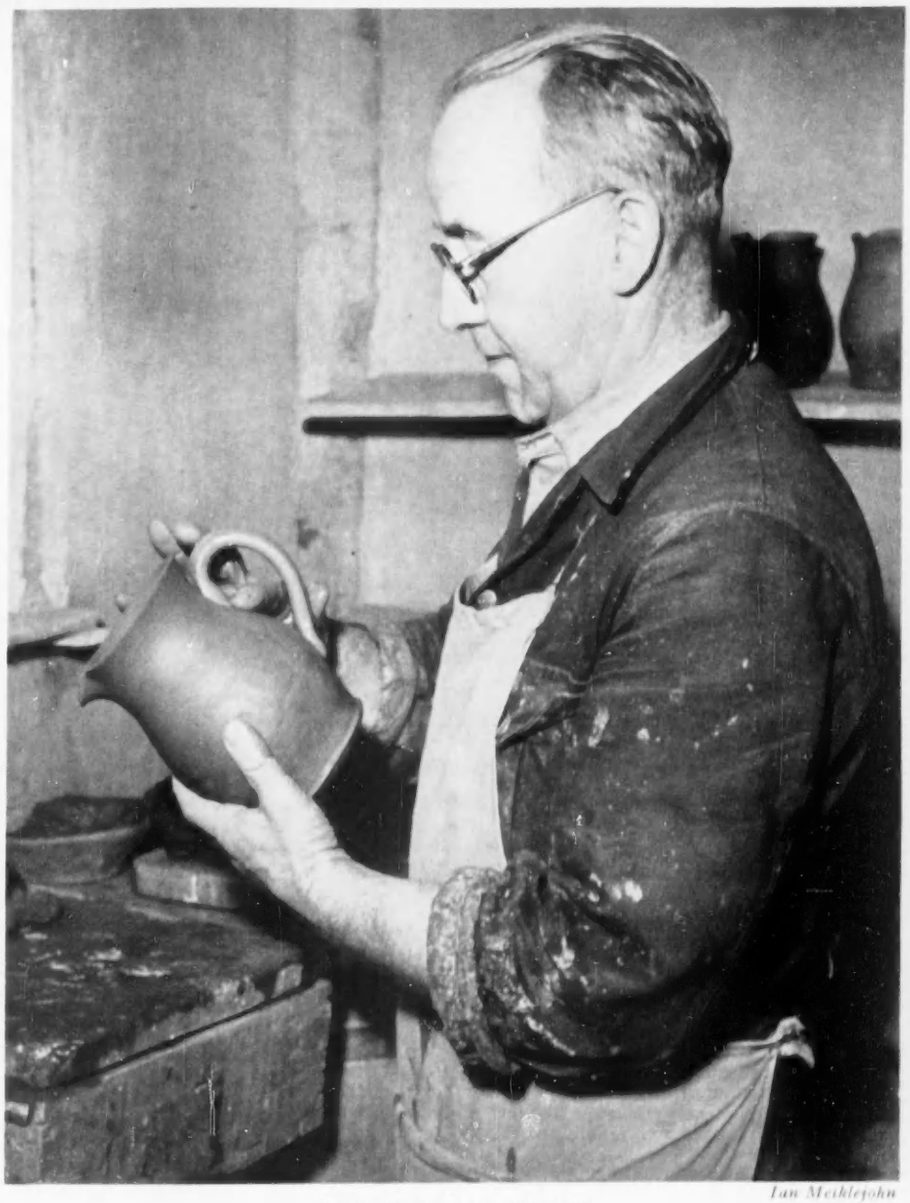
When someone swung a pick with more enthusiasm than usual and the point went through the main, we did a bit of amateur and unorthodox plumbing with the help of some clips and a piece of heavy canvas hose. It held, but, like people who know they live with the death-watch beetle, we are never completely at ease. It would take all of the wine in the potting shed to make us forget that one day we may be faced with a water system that would serve as a sprinkler for lawns. We have been toying with the idea of a new main altogether, having read of a pipe that does not rot, does not fur, and apparently expands and contracts with the changing temperature. If we go in for this stuff our little plumber will be out of a job, I'm afraid.

* * *

I READ not long ago that the dog in the road was likely to find mention in the Road Traffic Bill. This is not, of course, your dog or my dog, but the common dog of the street that, as far as I know, belongs to no one and, if it wears a collar, has no name upon it. What a difficult problem this is! Lots of people own dogs and let them run loose. It may only be a little less cruel to turn a dog out on the street to fend for itself than to keep it locked up in a shed. The answer might be that people who cannot give a dog a dog's life should not have one at all, but this strict outlook would deny a lot of ordinary people the pleasure they have in the companionship of a dog when they are at home and gather him in from the street. On the other hand, the road-user has to be considered. The worst road accident I have ever seen was one involving four motor-cyclists and a dog running loose. It would take a great deal to make me hold my car on its course with a dog in my path, and in fact I think the instinct to swerve and avoid injuring an animal is too strong for most people to do anything about it. But the reaction to prevent one mishap can so easily lead to a worse one.

* * *

ONE suggestion that has been put forward is that dogs should be kept from main roads, which puts the dog owner in the same position as he is in when it comes to sheep-worrying. It is his responsibility to control his dog and see that it does not do certain things. When sheep-worrying is taking place a lot of village dogs are disowned. I can remember a friend who came to stay at an hotel in the locality and out of the goodness of his heart decided to take the proprietor's dog for a walk. In no time the dog was off like a mad thing, across a valley and up a hill to set about a flock of sheep, one of which it was seen to pull down. We debated the responsibility of those involved in the affair. My friend, a townsman, complained that he had not been told that the dog was a sheep-worrier and departed not at all sure how he stood with the farmer, the police, or the owner of the dog. Fortunately the issue was simplified by the fact that the dog had a record and had been in the hands of the police at least once before. It had not been out for weeks, and it was no wonder that the moment it was freed it ran amok.



Ian Meiklejohn

THE FINISHING TOUCH

* * *

MY grandfather was something of an inventor, my father had his name on a patent for the dynamic trueing of aeroplane propellers and, although my own inventions, when successful, turn out to be things thought of thousands of years ago, I have always been interested in patent rights. A man who is clever enough to think of something that has not been thought of before deserves to be allowed to exploit his genius. The other day a friend sent me a copy of letters patent granted in 1632 to one Thomas Grent, Doctor in Phisick, who evolved a way of moving ships against a wind; a fish-call or a "lookeing glasse" for fishes in the sea, "very useful for fishermen to call all kinds of fishes to their netts, sears or hooks"; a water bowe for the preservation of houses upon the land and "shipps uppon the sea from suddaine fire"; a "buildinge moulde or stone presse very requisite for the building of churches or greate houses, by which stone windowes, door cases, chimney pieces are made more speedily without hewing cutting, or ingraveing, and tiles more beautiful to the eye and more dureable against foule weather"; a movable "hydraulike or chamber wethercall, like a cabinett, which, being placed in any roome or by a bedside causeth sweete sleepe to those which either by hott feavers or otherwise cannot take rest, and withall altereth the drying hott ayre into a more moystining and cooleing temper, either with musical sounds or without"; a "water-worke instrument" which may be called the corrected crane, "by which wyne, oyle or anie other liquor may be transfused from one vessell, which cannot well be removed to another remote, as also water may be drawne from one place to another without anie sucking or forceing by the mouth, as vintners and others use to do."

* * *

THE good doctor must have sat a long time thinking of these things, but I wonder if he really invented them all. Invention is usually stimulated by dire necessity. When inspiration comes to me, it will surely have something to do with keeping a rockery weeded without crawling up it on hands and knees, locating laying-away hens, keeping off predatory birds, or tying flies without biting the end of my tongue off.

AN HISTORIC VALLEY

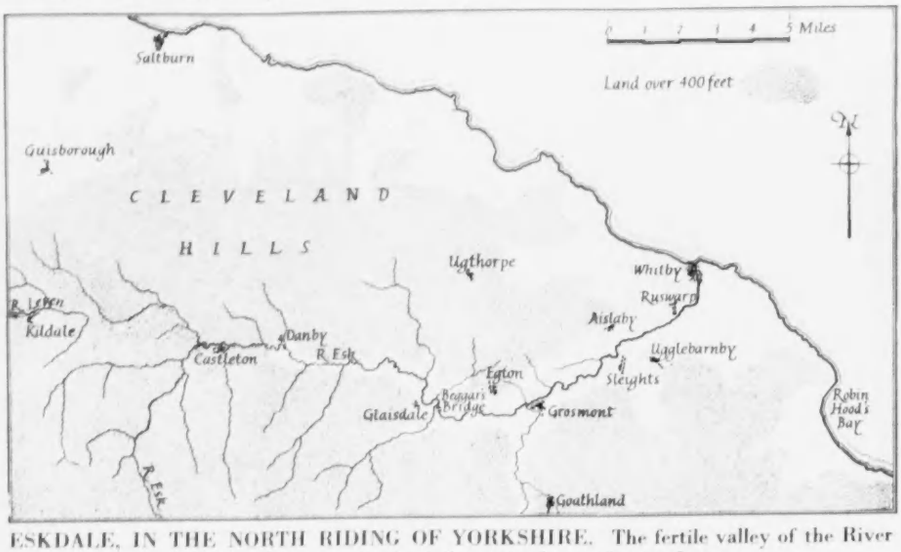
Written and Illustrated by E. F. LINCOLN

IF you stand on the cliff which rises steeply above the south bank of the River Esk about half way between Whitby and Ruswarp, in the North Riding, you are rewarded with one of the most impressive man-made panoramas in Britain. Below you the river winds from the hills down to the harbour of Whitby and beyond it to the open sea. A few hundred yards upstream it is crossed by a handsome viaduct carrying the railway. Beyond the viaduct fertile fields, hedged and trim, reach towards distant wooded hills. Hanging woods cloak the sides of the cliff on which you are standing, while towards the sea the river is hemmed in by the two towns of Whitby—the Old Town on the South Hill, the modern seaside resort on the North Hill, with the harbour town closely packed between them.

It is a scene in which the new and the old form contrasting parts of an intricate pattern—a scene, too, in which natural beauty has not been sacrificed entirely to a hundred years of rapid development. Inevitably, though, the change has been accelerated since first the railway opened out the seaward countryside of north Yorkshire, and later the motoring age brought a fresh influx of visitors and residents and turned the tracks over the moors into well-surfaced roads.

This varied panorama has added interest because it holds the key to the early history of a valley which had an enviable reputation for wealth throughout the Middle Ages. A glance at a contour map of Yorkshire will show in a moment how isolated this countryside must have been. To the south the land rises to open moorlands—barren, inhospitable and even to-day virtually unpeopled—a natural barrier to colonisation and a natural protection against attack from the people who lived in the early settlements which cluster thickly along the southern fringe of the moors. Northward, too, the land rises to a tumbled country of hill and dale extending almost without a break as far as the richer lands of Teesdale. Completing the wide semicircle of hills, the Cleveland Hills, with their steep heather- and bracken-covered commons, bar the way to the west.

So Whitby lies at the seaward end of a valley which is sometimes broad and lush, sometimes narrow and closely hemmed in by surrounding hills, but a valley which is always a little world of its own and which until the modern era of easy communications remained singularly free from the many alien influences that shaped rural life in most parts of England in the Middle Ages.



ESKDALE, IN THE NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE. The fertile valley of the River Esk has a history going back for more than a thousand years

The great influence, material as well as spiritual, of Yorkshire abbeys has often been noted. Rievaulx was the productive centre as well as the inspiration of Ryedale. Over to the west, in the foothills of the Pennine country, the rich monastery of Fountains had just as powerful an influence. But all fade into insignificance when compared with the contribution to the early prosperity of Eskdale which was made by the Abbey of Whitby.

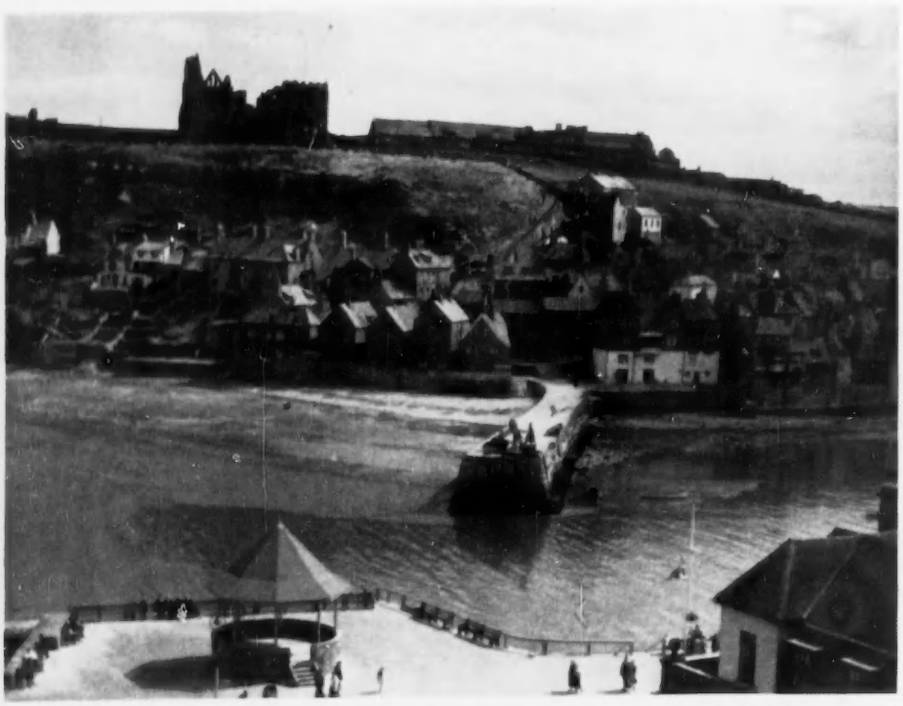
Without its Abbey, Whitby could scarcely have risen to its notable heights of mediæval fame. Certainly the countryside by the banks of the Esk to the foothills of the Clevelands would have developed more slowly without the market in Whitby where its husbandmen could sell their surplus production. Many of the people who dwelt in the little settlements which have become the villages of to-day depended directly on the Abbey in the relation of tenant to landlord. Several of the mills which represented the first industry of Eskdale likewise belonged to the Abbey. As we journey along the narrow roads which twist and turn between luxuriant hedges on both banks of the river we can still trace in the 20th-century scene the projection of Whitby's personality as it was five hundred years and more ago.

The town of Whitby itself grew up under the shadow of the Abbey, whose ruins are a still conspicuous landmark on the hilltop to the south. Enough of the Abbey church remains to give some idea of its grace and beauty in the Middle Ages. The Early English lancets, the Decorated tracery of some other windows, the lofty walls, the fine proportions of what was the choir, all help to recreate in the imagination something of the glory that was Whitby before the Dissolution of the Monasteries. A little over a century and a quarter ago the central tower was still standing, for records show that it fell in 1830 on the day before King George IV died. The nave had preceded it to an untimely end of fallen arches and unsightly rubble in 1763. But the final assault on the ruins of this once great foundation was delayed until 1914, when at the beginning of the first World War German submarines opened fire on this peaceful undefended fishing port and with a stray shell scored a direct hit on the west front of the Abbey.

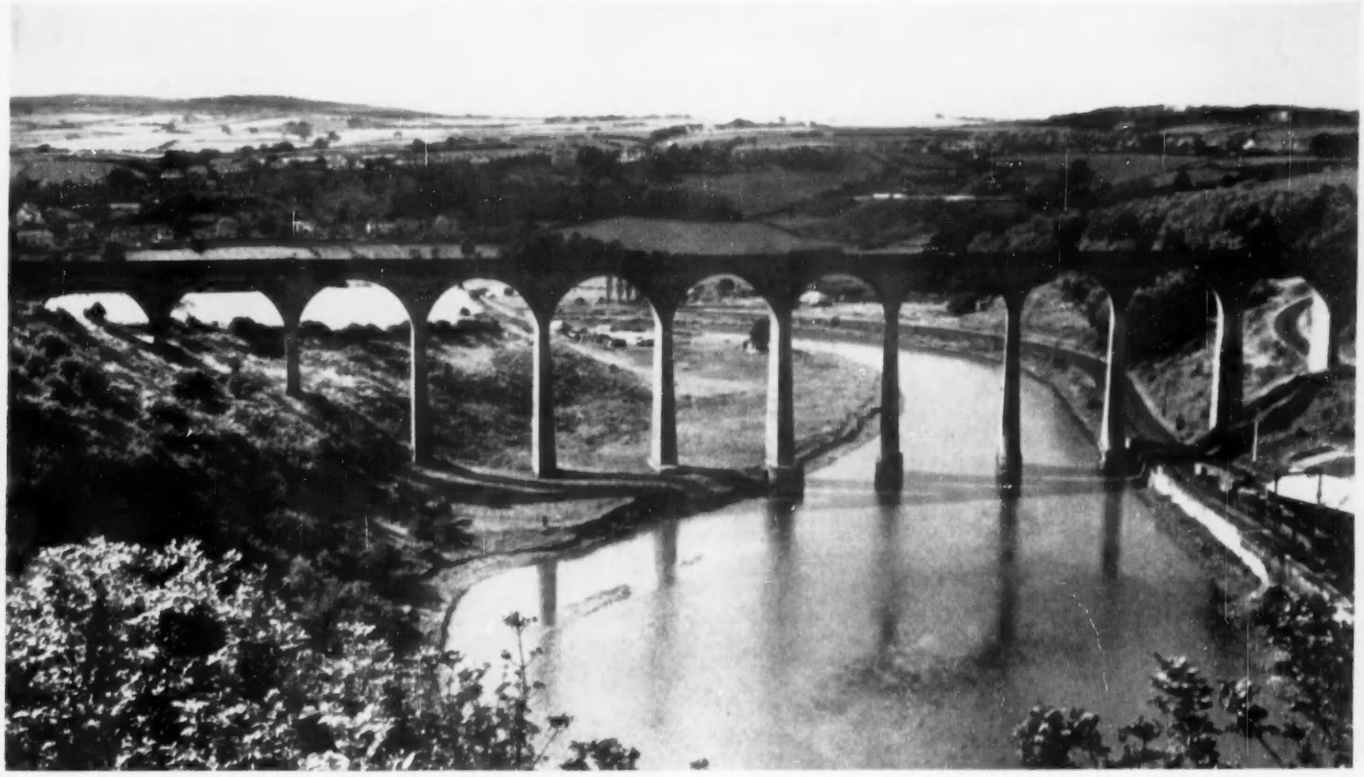
The Abbey ruins in their splendid isolation high above the huddled roofs of the old fishing town give an impression of timeless age. Yet they represent at least the third abbey that was built on or near their site. It was Oswy, King of Northumbria, who founded the first abbey in the 7th century to fulfil a vow he made before the decisive battle against the pagan forces of Mercia. St. Hilda was the first Abbess, King Oswy's daughter the second. Under the rule of these two great women the fame of Whitby Abbey spread far abroad. With the Abbey's resources the first efforts were made to extend the cultivation of the land by the River Esk.

For more than two hundred years the Abbey held a prominent place in the developing English church. Then in the 9th century pagan Viking forces, who laid waste the whole coast of Yorkshire, fell upon the monastery and the town that was already growing under its protection, put the monks and nuns to the sword, and burnt the buildings of wattle and daub.

The Viking invaders, however, saw the possibilities of Whitby and made it one of their principal settlements on the north-east coast, sending out colonists up the valley and continuing the work which the Abbey had begun



WHITBY, AT THE ENTRANCE TO ESKDALE, LOOKING ACROSS FROM THE NORTH HILL TO THE OLD TOWN AND THE ABBEY RUINS. The first abbey was built by Oswy, King of Northumbria, in the 7th century



THE VIEW UPSTREAM HALF WAY BETWEEN WHITBY AND RUSWARP TO THE HILLS BEYOND RUSWARP

so well. The place names of to-day are the silent evidence of what they achieved. Whitby itself is a Viking name (its former name was Streoneshalh); so is Aislaby four or five miles inland on the north of the river; so is Ugglebarnby on the other side of the valley; so, too, is Danby far up the valley where it merges into the Cleveland Hills—additional proof, if any were needed, of Whitby's importance, for these Viking or Danish colonists were essentially seafaring people who looked towards Whitby as surely as the colonists of an earlier age had looked towards the Abbey.

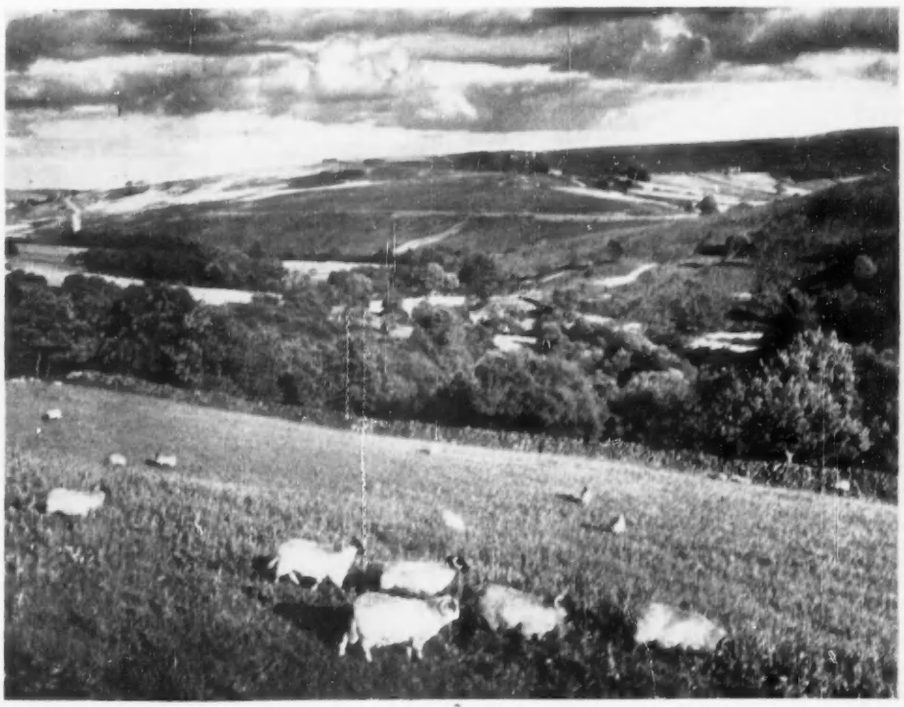
Two centuries went by before the monastery was refounded, yet even at the time of the Domesday survey the walls and altars of forty separate cells could be made out among the ruins. Under the Normans the Abbey began again its long career of devotion and service. A fine Norman church was built, a completely new Abbey was founded. Though the Norman church was partially destroyed during a Norwegian raid, the work of the Abbey was scarcely interrupted as it derived more and more wealth from the land which it was granted in Eskdale and ploughed back its profits into the enrichment and development of its cultivation.

As we journey up Eskdale we shall see that the mediæval influence of Whitby's Abbey lives on. When we come to Ruswarp, the first settlement up-river and very nearly a suburb of modern Whitby, on the surface everything is new. The church is modern; the bridge across the Esk is a functional affair built to replace the old bridge which, like many another in Eskdale, was carried away in the disastrous flood of 1930; even the mill with its vast silo is as modern and up-to-date as the bridge, for in its present form it was built only in 1946. But by a strange paradox that mill is the link between Ruswarp and the Abbey of Whitby. Its immediate forerunner was a fine Georgian water-mill which in the 18th century was considered the very last word in modern mills. That in turn replaced another mill which had a continuous history back to Norman times, when it is catalogued in the Domesday survey as the property of the Abbey of Whitby.

There were old mills, too, at Sleights and at Grosmont farther upstream, for the rather rapidly-flowing river assured adequate power to drive the water-wheels, and the climate, unusually favourable for so northern a latitude, made this relatively narrow valley as productive as any in the north country. The countryside between Grosmont and Egton is still a picture of exuberant fertility since improved drainage has removed the constant threat of flooding and improved methods of soil enrichment have enabled the Eskdale farmers to compete on level terms with those of the Vale of York.

When westerly winds are blowing the clouds break up as the moist air descends from the watershed of the Cleveland Hills. In the relatively sunny valley conditions are ideal for oats and quite suitable for barley and wheat. The fat herds of cattle which graze in the water-meadows are a testimony to the richness of the grass, while higher up the encompassing hill-sides parallel strips of woodland give way to hill pastures, the grazing ground of thousands of head of sheep. As we go farther up the valley the accent changes from ploughland to pasture, until round Danby and Castleton there is only a very occasional field of oats, though still ample pasture for cattle and sheep. Higher still, where the rank moorlands crowd in on the valley, only a narrow strip of good pasture land remains between the steep-sided ravine of the river and the rough grazing ground of the hills. Even so, one can see without any shadow of doubt that every possible acre is cultivated, and that the marginal land reclaimed during the second World War is still productive.

Egton bridge, like that of Ruswarp, is mute testimony to the violence of the 1930 flood which swept away the old bridge, but the Beggar's Bridge higher upstream at Glaisdale,



TYPICAL COUNTRY NEAR THE HEAD OF THE VALLEY, WITH THE CLEVELAND HILLS IN THE BACKGROUND

LOOKING ACROSS THE VALLEY FROM THE HILLS NEAR CASTLETON TOWARDS DANBY. Rough pasture on the middle slopes and bracken-covered moorland above

A STREAM IN THE MOORLANDS BETWEEN CASTLETON AND KILDALE

dated 1621, still stands as proudly as it did when its construction was the pride of Eskdale. Egton, a small rambling place on the hillside well above the flood plain of the valley, has a special interest because here within a short distance of each other we shall find a parish church and a Roman Catholic church, as we shall also at Ugthorpe, three miles away over the hills to the north. I cannot think of any other two small villages in such close proximity with their own Catholic churches. In fact it is no coincidence, for, although the last Abbot of Whitby signed away the Abbey and all its possessions in 1540, the people of some of the near-by villages never acquiesced in the Reformation and continued as Catholic communities right through the critical times of the 16th and 17th centuries. That is one more proof of the isolation of this part of Yorkshire and its independence of the central government, when the surrounding moorlands were virtually untracked and proved as good a protection against spiritual intervention from outside as from the attacks of gangs of highwaymen and outlaws.

Castleton and Danby are the twin centres of the upper valley, where numerous becks flow down from the heather-clad hills to unite with the parent stream of Esk. Here at the farthest point west that the valley can be cultivated it broadens into a complex pattern of woods and pasture fields and bracken-covered commons. Its very complexity makes this part the most beautiful of all, beautiful in its variety of colouring and in the arrangement of its many elements which are integrated by nature's magic into a recognisable and memorable whole.

Danby Castle stands on a bluff commanding the whole valley, a warlike intrusion in a peaceful scene, matching the pylons and deserted hutments of the radar station which made this an active centre of air operations during the second World War. But there is no longer anything really warlike about Danby Castle, for all that it was raised during the reign of Edward I to hold the people of the valley in check. Even then it was more a fortified manor house than a castle. To-day the ways of peace have overtaken its ruins, which are built into the walls of a farm-house. It is hard to realise that when first it was built it consisted of a rectangular court with towers at each angle, massive in defence like so many of the fortified manor houses of the north country.

Over at Castleton the Robin Hood Inn—

Kind gentlemen and yeomen good,
Call in and drink with Robin Hood—

at first sight sends the imagination flying across the Midlands to Sherwood Forest, the traditional home of Robin Hood and his Merrie Men. But no, Castleton's Robin Hood Inn does not look across the moors to the Forests of Barnsdale and Sherwood. It looks, like many other places and things we have seen, back to the Abbey of Whitby, where the legend is that Robin Hood with Friar Tuck and Little John came visiting when the outlaw court in Sherwood had attained a dignity amid the lawlessness of the Middle Ages that could be recognised by men of goodwill everywhere.

Appropriately it is a steep climb to the high moors which lie between Castleton and Kildale, an even longer and steeper climb over the hills to Guisborough at the approach to Teesdale. That is indeed like climbing out of a well-loved self-sufficient world into a distant foreign land, a journey which none would have attempted when the moors were trackless and the way down the valley into Whitby so easy and so rewarding.

A TYPICAL SMALL FARM-HOUSE IN ESKDALE

A STRING OF EELS

By VALENTINE BOUCHER

IT must have been the tinkers paddling in the lake who gave us the idea. Two of them were apparently engaged in the innocuous pastime of poking about with a short stick underneath the stones of the shallows. As we approached they made to run off, but we bade them continue. Truth to tell the tinker of Connemara is an engaging fellow, as long as he lays off the salmon and the trout.

Then we saw that there was more to their weapon than just a stick. To one end of it was tied a piece of string and at the business end of the string was a worm-baited hook. They had allowed the point of the hook to protrude a little from the worm and had impaled it very lightly to the top of the stick. It was with the wormy end of the stick that they were exploring the bed of the lake.

Presently the tinker with the stick paused. Something stirred in the water below him. Retaining his hold on the stick, he let the string go. Now the contraption became a tiny rod and line, for whatever it was in the water had disengaged the hook from the top of the stick and was seeking freedom. The battle was short-lived and presently the tinkers' prize was wriggling about on the pebbles of the foreshore. It was a nice, medium-sized eel.

Eels? If the tinkers could catch them by such simple means, so could we. They could not be doing the fishing any good; besides, to be quite frank, there comes a time in any fishing holiday when a surfeit of trout, as an article of diet, can become wearisome. Eels, stewed in a jelly based on white wine, are delicate meat. Orders went forth to the tackle shop in Galway and soon there arrived a hundred yards of stout line, a hundred swivels, packets of hooks and lengths of twine. We thought that a one-hundred hook eel-line was an ambitious enough start. It proved on occasion too ambitious, but that is another story.

Now Jim's inventive genius was invoked. Jim was the lad-of-all-work at the Lodge. He could do anything and up till then his achievements had included the building of a boathouse, with no previous building experience, and the construction of a dozen beehives, with no apiarian knowledge. Both had been unqualified successes and, for all I know, the boathouse and the beehives are still in service. We gave him the task of contriving a machine with which to lay an eel-line. He took it in his stride, as though he had been making such things all his life.

Its basic feature was a large disc, cut from the three-ply lid of a tea-chest. To the top of the disc and a few inches inside the circumference were nailed a number of pegs, for the provision of which a broomstick had been sacrificed. The circumference itself was serrated all round with a fretsaw. A longer peg was screwed loosely to the bottom of the disc and at the centre. This acted as a handle and on it the disc was meant to revolve freely. The whole somewhat resembled an unusual shield from mediæval times.

We chose an afternoon unsuitable for fishing to make preparations for our first assault on the eels. First we cut the eel-line into one-yard lengths; then rejoined it with a swivel at each yard throughout its length. We drove tall stakes zig-zag fashion into the lawn in front of the Lodge and fastened the line to the top of them. To each swivel we tied a foot of twine and to each piece of twine we attached a hook. Our line, with its hundred droppers, was ready for baiting.

Jim had been digging in the crisp turf of the roadside verge and had an ample supply of fat, blue-headed worms waiting. The whole family turned to and in an hour the work was done. It was at that moment that one of the Rhode Island Reds on her afternoon promenade spotted a hundred free snacks, suspended apparently from heaven. With a cluck of pleased surprise, she took a standing jump upward. Much more to her surprise, the laws of gravity ceased to operate and she failed to come down again. She was well and truly hooked. We were less concerned about her obvious discomfort than about the tangled skein into which her struggles threatened to reduce the eel-line. We disengaged her at last, but never knew to what extent the contretemps had put her off her lay. Our chickens deposited their eggs indiscriminately over a large area of Connemara and their subsequent discovery was largely a matter of chance—except for one, which obligingly used our outside lavatory.

Now the line was ready for transfer to the home-made skip. Carefully we wound it round and round the wooden pegs and, as we came to each dropper, we fastened it into its own notch at the edge of the disc. It was a nice, workmanlike job. From a mediæval shield the skip had become a fanciful garden party hat with worms as the decorative motif. It remained only to provide ourselves with a length of rope, two rocks as sinkers and two boards as markers. And so to the boat.

We knew the bed of the lake pretty well and we had decided on a straight, weed-free course through deep water down the centre of it. My eldest brother was in the stern with the skip, Jim was at the oars, and I was in the bow to give navigational directions. At the beginning of the run my brother took the required length of line off the skip and attached the rope and the rock to the end of it. Slowly he lowered it over the side, and when the rock touched bottom he severed the rope and tied on a marker board. So far so good.

Now Jim began to pull the boat at snail's pace down the course. The skip functioned surprisingly well, though it cannot be pretended that our progress was roses all the way. Despite the notches so carefully contrived to keep the baited hooks apart, worms have caressing habits and before half the course was done my brother was bleeding from a dozen flesh wounds. Still, the line rolled off the skip smoothly enough and, one by one, the droppers were disengaged and disappeared into the depths in a fairly straight line. As the hundredth sank from view the second rock was secured and the second marker board bobbed on the ripple. We returned to the Lodge well content and itching for the morrow.

The morrow, when it came, did not look so good. There is a curious local superstition that the propensity of eels for escape increases with the approach of day. Jim had, therefore, insisted that the eel-line should be lifted at crack of dawn. When, accordingly, a shower of pebbles rattled on our bedroom windows, it was still dark, cold and raining. We pulled trousers, gumboots and sweaters over our pyjamas, armed ourselves with a bucket and the kitchen scissors and made shiveringly for the lakeside. There was little of the smiling morn about the damp, grey pall that was the substitute for dawn that day. We had, incidentally, left the skip behind, but had provided ourselves instead with a dustbin lid.

It is astonishing how far a simple board, firmly anchored one would have thought, can wander during the hours of darkness. Though we had carefully checked the position of our marker by landmarks before leaving the lake overnight, we were a full fifteen minutes locating it in the unfriendly morning gloom.

This time I was in the stern, the bucket gripped between my knees, the dustbin lid at my feet. I retrieved the rope and the rock—then the eel-line proper, which I coiled as carefully as possible in the dustbin lid.

Now the first dropper came into view. Was there a lively, grey wraith attached to the end of it? There was; and such was my surprise that for a spell life in the boat was fast and furious. An eel is both slippery and allergic to being unhooked. This one took to the bilge beneath the floorboards, dragging a fair length of line with him. Jim did what he could to keep the boat stationary while the hunt was on. We got him in the end, but afterwards I made no effort to unhook them. I took the kitchen scissors and severed the droppers as close to the eels' snouts as I could.

If our progress in the evening had been erratic, it was a hundred times more so in the morning. An eel in full health can do wonderful things to a loosely laid line. He can seek out a fellow sufferer and clasp him in a passionate embrace; he can entwine himself first in the dropper and then in the line itself, and still not get strangled; he can find weeds where no weeds had been before.

Despite our trials and tribulations, however, it was beginner's luck all the way. As the droppers came over the side they all seemed to be tenanted. Soon the bucket between my knees presented a lively scene. At the end of the run it contained 96 eels. Two more were at large somewhere in the boat. Only two hooks were bare and both had received attention during the night.

We never had such luck again. During the following winter, when we were away, we gave permission for some professional eel fishermen from Galway to put down their lines. Jim estimated that they took close on 5 cwt. of eels away with them. That may have accounted for it. But we never drew blank, and our own modest efforts not only benefited the larder, but gave us endless fun.

A LAKE IN CONNEMARA WHERE THE AUTHOR CAUGHT NEARLY A HUNDRED EELS ON A SINGLE LINE

PAINTINGS FROM WALES

By DENYS SUTTON

ONE must congratulate Messrs. Agnew on their enterprise in arranging an exhibition of selected pictures from the National Museum of Wales, in aid of the Friends of this museum (until February 4). What gives the exhibition such particular interest is that it contains a number of French 19th-century paintings of exceptional importance, which were bequeathed to the museum by Miss Gwendoline Davies, one of the founders of the Greynog Press, as recently as 1952. Miss Davies will always be remembered, when the annals of English collecting are compiled, for her pioneer work in this direction; she had, as these paintings attest, a singularly sharp eye and was evidently not afraid to buy in advance of general taste. More the pity that the present catalogue does not contain the dates of Miss Davies's acquisitions, especially as the relevant material is readily to hand in the recently published catalogue of the museum.

GAINSBOROUGH: *ROCKY LANDSCAPE WITH A BRIDGE.* ABOUT 1780. The paintings illustrated in this article are among those from the National Museum of Wales on view at Messrs. Agnew's galleries in Old Bond-street, W.1

This information is not of academic interest only. Owing to the slow way in which our collectors turned to the 19th-century French school any material that sheds light, however fragmentary, on this aspect of our cultural history is relevant. As was to be expected, Miss Davies—and the dates of her purchases point the argument—bought first works by such painters as Corot and Millet, who were then the rage; on the other hand, it is evident that several of her late Monets (which are sadly in need of new frames) were secured as early as 1912. However, Miss Davies, one may presume to suggest, was never doctrinaire; the fact that she had been converted, so to speak, to the moderns did not mean that her allegiance to her former favourites slackened: she was, in fact, still prepared to buy such a masterpiece as Millet's *Les Bûcheronnes*, which is surprisingly not on view, and two of her Daumiers were purchased in 1919 and 1920. Moreover, Daumier's brilliantly handled *Le Déjeuner à la Campagne* (does it represent a group of artists, one wonders?) has a dynamic thrust suggestive of early Cézanne.

While many of Miss Davies's French pictures were found in Paris with such well-known French dealers as Bernheim, Renoir's masterpiece *La Parisienne*, came from the old Grosvenor Gallery, which had such a distinguished place in London's art life at the close of the last century. This is one of the most magical pictures on view; how easily, given the temptation of the subject, it could have become a modish Salon picture of the day. Yet the bluish background tones possess that iridescent quality that was always a hallmark of Renoir; it is this sort of colour scheme, enriched in some of his landscapes by reddish strands, that makes one wonder if Renoir was in any way influenced by Chinese *famille verte* porcelain. If *famille verte* is held close to certain pictures by Renoir then the *rapprochement* is striking; however, no direct evidence to support this relationship seems known. Of course, Renoir may well have seen, either in the Louvre or in such private collections as those of Cernuschi or even Koechlin (the latter, though a *Japonisard*, owned Renoirs), pieces of *famille verte*; moreover, some of the most notable publications on porcelain, such as those by Jacquemart (1862) and Grandidier (1897), appeared in his lifetime.

RICHARD WILSON: *LANDSCAPE WITH BANDITTI ROUND A TENT.* 1772

When in Paris in 1918 Miss Davies acquired three pictures by Cézanne, that is to say, some years before Samuel Courtauld began to collect this artist's work. These include the *Paysage Provençal*, which once belonged to Baron Denys Cochin; although for long dated around 1885 it more

DAUMIER: *LE DEJEUNER A LA CAMPAGNE.* (*Right*) CEZANNE: *PAYSAGE PROVENCAL: SOUS-BOIS.* ABOUT 1889

probably comes from the period 1889. It is one of those relatively late landscapes in which the treatment of the details suggests the origins not only of Cubism, but of artists such as Paul Klee. Her collection also contains two splendid pictures by Manet, one of which, *L'Eglise du Petit-Montrouge, Paris*, from the 1870s, is strikingly close to certain Chelsea views painted by Sickert as a young man. On the other hand, Manet's *Le Lapin*, which dates from the early 1880s, suggests the continuity of the French tradition: it recalls Chardin and even Bonvin, although Manet's handling is far more liquid than that of his contemporary. Unfortunately, the selection does not include Gauguin's *Paysannes Bretonnes à la Messe*, which was apparently acquired by Mrs. Alfred Thornton, the wife of the painter (whose reminiscences are so entertaining), in Brittany in 1890.

It was in accord with Miss Davies's eye for the moderns that she should have been impressed by El Greco, and with the assistance of Hugh Blaker, who acted as her *cicerone*, she purchased several pictures by this artist, of which the most important is *El Espolio*; this is a replica, painted probably with studio assistants, of the upper half of a painting of 1579 in the sacristy at Toledo Cathedral. That Miss Davies should have responded to El Greco (her purchases occurred in the early 1920s) is symptomatic of the taste of the time: Aldous Huxley, for instance, was to compose a brilliant essay on his art and only a generation before a collector such as Marzell von Nemes—as Eduard Plietzsch has recalled in his recently published souvenirs *Heiter ist die Kunst*—was discovering El Greco at the same time as the then modern French school, to the dismay of such stalwarts of the old guard as Wilhelm von Bode.

As is to be expected, in view of the museum's terms of reference, much space is devoted to Welsh artists, above all Richard Wilson. The Wilsons, which are nearly all well known, include one of his best views of Dover, *Carnarvon Castle* and *Pembroke Town and Castle*; however, others are relatively unfamiliar and admirers of this artist will be interested to examine the early *Boy in a Landscape* (the stylistic derivation of the fruit sets a neat problem in detection) and the *Landscape with Banditti round a Tent*, painted for Ralph Howard, later Viscount Wicklow. This illuminates the stylistic origins of a master who, as the portrait of him by Mengs suggests, was a familiar figure in the Roman art world of his period.

There is also a chance on this occasion to study the influence of Wilson on such pupils and imitators as Inigo Richards and Thomas Jones. The latter, for instance, is represented by a sympathetic essay in the master's manner which lacks, none the less, that direct approach to nature which distinguishes his sketches, a number of which have recently passed through Christie's. He is, of course, chiefly remembered for his Roman journal (issued by the *Walpole Society*), which remains one of the most valuable accounts of artistic life in that city.

Another Welshman who settled in Rome, though at a later date (1827), was Penry Williams. He became one of the leaders of the international group of artists then working in the city and was evidently admired by Thorvaldsen, who acquired one of his pictures: this now hangs in the Thorvaldsen Museum in Copenhagen. It was Williams who became such a close friend of the Liverpool sculptor John Gibson and accompanied him on his last journey.

The other 18th- and 19th-century paintings include a romantic landscape by Gainsborough, which has apparently not been published, and also his competent portrait of Thomas Pennant, the collector. Of particular interest for students of the by-ways of English painting is the impressive canvas of two children attributed to Opie. Among the later works, attention will be surely won, as well, by Wilson Steer's tender *The Schoolgirl*, of 1906, which is the quintessence of Edwardianism: neither the present catalogue nor that of the museum itself notes that it was exhibited at the New English Art Club in 1906, and that it is duly recorded in Alfred Yockney's check list of Steer's oil paintings appended to D. S. MacColl's biography of the artist.

It is a merit of the exhibition—as of the museum—that it contains a number of admirable paintings by contemporary Welsh artists. Naturally, Augustus John and J. D. Innes are well represented; but there are also such rarities as a portrait of the latter, dated 1913, painted by Ian Strang, who died in 1952.

WILSON STEER: *THE SCHOOLGIRL.* 1906

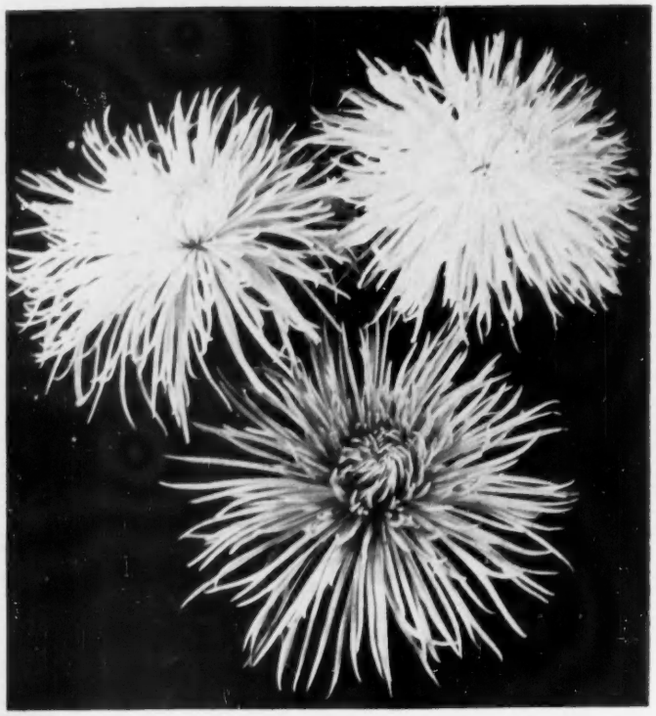
ADVENTURES WITH CHRYSANTHEMUMS

By **A. G. L. HELLYER**

OF chrysanthemums there is no end. The cynical may even feel that the chrysanthemum breeder is on a roundabout which gives no more than an illusion of change, as it constantly returns to the same point. But though it may be true that the most popular classes of chrysanthemum, the big, double-flowered blooms for outdoor and greenhouse cultivation, have already produced all possible variations within the conventions of their particular types, yet the chrysanthemum itself is so mutable that there is no knowing what the future might disclose if only fashion would change a little and give the raiser a chance to be more adventurous.

Consider the anemone-centred flower. I do not know just how old this is, but one can certainly find illustrations of it well back in the 19th century. But it has never been greatly exploited, presumably because there has never been much demand for it. There are welcome signs that this long neglect is now ending: welcome not only because anemone-centred chrysanthemums are highly decorative, but also because the form offers far greater scope for variation than either the conventional singles or doubles. The central cushion of the anemone flower can be small or large, flat or dome shaped. Its petals may be of many different shapes, and in colour they may harmonise or contrast with the ray petals which surround it. They, in turn, exhibit astonishing versatility. They may be narrow and widely separated, giving the impression of rays of light thrown out by the central disc, or they can be so broad, flat and overlapping that they make as solid a patch of colour as the cushion itself. They can be straight or twisted, held out stiffly like a halo, or folded down at an angle to give a more relaxed effect. And this with all the variations in colour and size common to the chrysanthemum as a whole. Small wonder that flower arrangers are discovering this to be the outstanding chrysanthemum for their purpose and are giving a new impetus to the introduction of varieties that really are novelties.

The rayonnante is another old and nearly forgotten type that seems destined to get a new lease of life because of the recent rise of flower arrangement clubs all over the country as well as in America. The rayonnante is a double chrysanthemum in which the petals are so narrow and so well rolled that they appear almost threadlike. They have, in fact, much the same formation as the old-fashioned, spider-like cactus dahlia, another flower that would be welcomed back if it could be produced on plants with good garden qualities.



RAYONNANTE CHRYSANTHEMUMS, WHICH ARE EXTREMELY GRACEFUL BECAUSE OF THEIR LONG AND VERY NARROW PETALS. (*Left*) A CASCADE CHRYSANTHEMUM TRAINED IN THE TRADITIONAL MANNER. The plants can also be grown as erect bushes

Although a number of small exhibits of rayonnante chrysanthemums have been seen during the last two or three years, they have all been composed of old varieties. As far as I am aware no one has yet started to breed this graceful type seriously. Perhaps the demand would not yet justify this, for it must be admitted that the breeding of new flowers is nearly always a prolonged and costly business. Yet there are rewards waiting here for the enterprising breeder—possibly better rewards than could be obtained merely by keeping on and on with the conventional patterns which are so wearisomely overdone at the moment.

The pompon has engaged the serious attention of a number of breeders for some years, and, although this has not resulted as yet in any notable change, it has certainly given a welcome publicity to one of the most charming and decorative types of chrysanthemum. The early-flowering pompon is a first-rate garden plant, as every grower of Janté Wells knows. I still rate this as one of the very best of this type, hardy, free-flowering and compact.

Many chrysanthemums appear to be strangely ephemeral. They enjoy a few years of popularity and then mysteriously disappear, apparently because their constitution has been undermined and they are no longer capable of giving the results of their prime. That, indeed, is one of the principal justifications for continuing with the large-scale breeding of the popular types, for, as with dahlias, it is necessary to keep constantly moving to remain where one is. But this is not true of all chrysanthemums and in some cottage gardens one may still see thriving pompons that have been there for a generation or more. How admirable it would be if such longevity, hardiness and freedom could be harnessed to all the modern chrysanthemum colours! The breeder, it is true, might regard the longevity with mixed feelings, considering that a dozen or so such introductions would put him out of business. But the Continental or American raiser might be consoled by the thought of what royalties could do for him. Incidentally, if reports are to be believed, the Americans are well ahead of us with pompon chrysanthemums.

Several attempts have been made to popularise the lovely cascade chrysanthemums, but no doubt the labour of training them properly discourages most gardeners from taking them up. It is a pity that greater endeavours have not been made to show what the cascade type can do when grown "straight"—that is to say, left to take its own way with no more than a

CHRYSANTHEMUM MARION STACEY, AN INTERESTING ANEMONE-CENTRED VARIETY WITH A COMPARATIVELY THIN CUSHION, WHICH PERMITS THE FORM OF THE INDIVIDUAL FLORETS TO BE SEEN. (*Right*) CHRYSANTHEMUM BEAUTIFUL LADY, ANOTHER TYPE OF ANEMONE-CENTRED FLOWER IN WHICH THE CENTRAL CUSHION IS LARGE AND COMPACT AND THE RAY PETALS ARE NARROW

little pinching and thinning to help it on its way. More practical is the Charm chrysanthemum, which resembles the cascade in its small, single flowers, has a bushier habit and can be readily raised from seed to flower the same year. I am amazed that this type has not been taken up by market gardeners for sale as a flowering pot plant, a purpose for which it is admirably suited. All the Charm chrysanthemums I have seen have been fairly late flowering, which, of course, necessitates completing their growth in a greenhouse. Whether it would be possible to obtain early-flowering Charms I do not know, but last year I grew and flowered outdoors from seed single Korean chrysanthemums, which resemble the Charms in many respects. This seems to me to be a step in the right direction, for seedlings start unencumbered by virus or eelworm, have the attaction of the unknown, and give the amateur the chance of making his own selection.

Personally, I am very fond of single chrysanthemums, particularly the smaller-flowered kinds, which are far more attractive and are easier to grow than the large exhibition singles. Several of these have been introduced lately for November or December flowering and should meet with sufficient response to encourage further adventures in this direction. One I admired particularly was Holiday, a brilliant, terra-cotta variety with flowers carried in large sprays. Another not dissimilar is Galaxy. I would like to see chrysanthemums such as this to cover the whole flowering season.

These, then, are a few of the more unconventional types of chrysanthemum that actually exist. What might be produced if someone were sufficiently enterprising to go all out for novelty no one can guess. There seems to be no reason why the chrysanthemum should not prove as malleable as the dahlia, in the hands of an adventurous breeder.

CHRYSANTHEMUM GALAXY, WHICH PRODUCES ITS SPRAYS OF SMALL, SINGLE BRONZE FLOWERS IN NOVEMBER. (*Right*) PARAMOUNT, A FINE MODERN EXAMPLE OF THE POMPON CHRYSANTHEMUM, WITH PURE WHITE FLOWERS

SHOOTING ON SMALL ESTATES

MY grandfather, up to the time of his death in 1889, was in the habit of shooting over dogs, or under a kite, or just walking with one, or at the most two, other guns. Partridge driving as we have known it was then in its infancy, and his average bag was about nine to fifteen brace per day.

When he died things were just beginning to move. Better guns were being made, although they still had hammers, and my father soon began to realise that with better keepering the stock of partridges could be greatly increased. So he hired a new keeper from Lord Cadogan's estate at Culford. Things began to improve almost immediately, and from then on to his death in 1900 he liked to shoot once or twice a week all through September and October, with four or five guns instead of two or three, and walking in line.

His average daily bag was 25 to 50 brace, and the average amount of help required was about one beater, or brusher as we called them then, per gun; and when the birds became too wild to be walked up any longer he had two or three small driving days of about 40 brace each.

* * *

When I came home about 1896, to manage his estate for him, there was a very severe agricultural depression, and all his tenants had either gone bankrupt or else left their farms to save themselves from so doing. He was in considerable financial difficulty owing to his being obliged to find the capital to take on these farms, which were being thrown on his hands, and I soon began to represent to him that the perpetual drain of four or five men, off the farm, and paid by the farm account all through September and October, once or twice a week, was not only most inconvenient, but also a very extravagant way of doing things, and that in addition to that it would be far better fun to have three or four really good days' driving, and allow his walking days to play second fiddle. He would have none of that, but when he died it was the first rearrangement I made. I divided my 1,600 acres into four separate beats, 350 acres being the smallest and 600 the largest, and from then on, until the outbreak of the first World War, we always got 100-odd brace from one of the beats and sometimes off all four.

* * *

Now let me turn to the costs of a shoot such as this in 1900, as compared with those of to-day. A keeper's wages then were round about 20s. to 25s. a week, house rent free, a suit of clothes and a ton of coal, say about £80 a year in all. To-day I do not suppose one could get out much under £450 a year for the same service. Therefore, whereas one could employ two keepers then fairly easily, now one can probably afford only one.

Turning to beaters, you could hire all you wanted for 4s. to 5s. a day, plus beer at twopence a pint, bread, cheese and meat pies, supplied from the house, for their lunch, so that a day's driving with thirty beaters cost you only about £10 to £12, while 100 brace sent to market at about 3s. a brace provided your day's sport for nothing. To-day, thirty beaters with their beer, insurance against accidents, tractors and trailers to transport them from drive to drive, and so forth, will, I fancy, cost you about £45, which, with little or nothing to sell, is an expensive day's pleasure.

Farming methods, too, have altered considerably. Instead of roots and other green crops grown for sheep feed, and dotted about the farms in little pieces of twenty acres or so, now we have large acreages of stubbles, mostly burnt, with an odd field of eighty acres or so of sugar beet here and there, which not only necessitate far bigger acreages for a day's driving, but also, I think, cause the birds to lose themselves when, after a longish flight, they drop into the thick cover and refuse to get up again unless almost trodden on.

* * *

Besides all these difficulties, we are faced with the almost entire disappearance of the partridge, and I should like to mention two facts which have come under my own personal observation and which may or may not have a bearing on this vexed question.

My records show that the process has been a gradual one, beginning about the years 1941-42. Those two years coincide with the dates during which a sheep- and cattle-dealer of my acquaintance spent nearly all his time buying up and slaughtering all the hurdled ewe flocks in the neighbourhood.

My second experience is this. The head keeper on a large and well known shoot near by told me only a year ago that all through the very worst of the time he always had a few coveys on the least up-to-date and, according to modern ideas, the worst done farm on the estate.

It is only fair to add, however, that this season there does appear to be quite a nice stock of young healthy birds, so that one can perhaps hope that the worst is now over.

The question I ask myself now is this: what should I do if under all these new conditions I had to start my time over again as a young man? Should I merely cut my driving days down to one, instead of four? Should I return to my father's method of walking in line, or should I go even farther back still to my grandfather's method of shooting over dogs?

REGINALD S. HICKS.

POINTERS TO THE GOLD CUP

By **DARE WIGAN**

BY the middle of January the National Hunt season proper is approximately half completed and normally it is possible to form some conclusions about the merits of the leading contenders.

There is little doubt that the most informative, as it was the most exciting, race that has taken place so far this season over fences was the King George VI Steeplechase, which was run over three miles at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. There were eight runners, representing the pick of the old brigade, with the exception of the Contessa di Saint Elia's ten-year-old gelding Halloween, who had pulled up lame after a dour struggle with Sir Percy Orde's rising star, Pointsman, in the Cottage Rake Steeplechase at Lingfield Park a month earlier, and the most promising of the younger school of experienced jumpers, as distinct from novices, among whom, in addition to Pointsman, were Mr. J. Davey's Limber Hill and Mrs. J. White's Lochroe. It was a race that, in spite of the difference between Kempton Park's sharp twisting track and the undulations and severe uphill finish at Cheltenham, was expected to throw light on the Gold Cup, and it yielded an exciting contest.

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The favourite was Limber Hill, an eight-year-old gelding by a little-known sire, Bassam, from Mindoon, a Gainsborough mare. This rugged gelding, who, like Halloween, served his apprenticeship in the hunting field, having been hunted regularly by his owner with the Brocklesby Hounds, had won last year's National Hunt Steeplechase at Cheltenham when he gave Quare Times, the subsequent winner of the Grand National, 1 lb. and a ready beating. Those were satisfactory credentials to bring south for a race worth £2,814 to the winner, and Limber Hill proved worthy of the trust reposed in him. That is not to say that he had matters all his own way. Far from it; for no sooner had the runners settled fairly into their stride than Lady Orde's ten-year-old gelding Galloway Braes, whom many astute judges dismissed as a has-been, pulled his way to the front and remained there until almost the end of the race, giving his rivals a salutary lesson in the art of jumping. Indeed, before the field had completed one circuit of the course he had most of them floundering as he jumped fence after fence straight as an arrow, scarcely pausing at either take-off or landing.

Coming to the stands first time round, Galloway Braes, ridden by F. Winter, was lobbing along five lengths in front of the field, and it was about here that the riders of his six remaining opponents—New Quick, the only entry from France, had gone at the first fence—determined to take closer order—if they could. The effort spelt disaster for Lochroe, who was cannoned into from behind when taking off, and who, slithering on the greasy turf, defied R. Francis's efforts to stay in the saddle. Meanwhile, Galloway Braes was galloping on strongly, oblivious of the frantic efforts that were being made behind him, and he came into the straight for the last time fully eight lengths in front of Limber Hill, his nearest attendant. At this point it did not seem that he could be beaten, but, whether through natural exuberance or through tiredness, he made a shocking blunder at the penultimate fence and in so doing gave Limber Hill and J. Power, his Northern jockey, the opening they sought. From then on the writing was on the wall, for, though Galloway Braes refused to give in, he was collared on the flat and beaten by a neck after what was, perhaps, the most thrilling steeplechase since Golden Miller beat Thomond II for the Cheltenham Gold Cup of 1935.

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The general conclusion reached as result of the King George VI Steeplechase is that Limber Hill is the probable winner of this year's Cheltenham Gold Cup, and certainly he must stand a great chance. But one cannot help wishing that Lochroe had not been brought down at a crucial stage of the Kempton race, for it would have been interesting to see how he fared. Some experienced judges will not have Lochroe at any price for the Gold Cup, not because of his mishap at Kempton—everyone agrees that his fall there was due to circumstances beyond his control—but because, as a small, light-framed animal, he is considered to be better suited to a park course than to Cheltenham. It may be that they will be right, but I am not so sure. Admittedly, Lochroe has not a great deal of substance and his stamina is unproven. But breeding is in his favour—he is by King Hal, out of Loch Cash, a mare by Knight of Kilcash—and it is no secret that P. Cazalet, his experienced trainer, has a high opinion of his ability. Moreover, it may be remembered that at Hurst Park last autumn Lochroe finished a long way in front of Galloway Braes, and that in December, 1954, when both were novices, he gave a sound beating to Limber Hill in the Henry VIII Steeplechase at Hurst Park.

* * *

Mention of the Henry VIII Steeplechase brings one to this season's crop of novice steeplechasers, for this race is designed specifically to test their qualifications. It was won last month by Monsieur Beaucaire II, a five-year-old French-bred gelding by Souverain, from Joan, a well-bred mare who won a small flat race at Brighton in Prince Aly Khan's colours. Monsieur Beaucaire II belongs to Mr. F. Craig-Hervey, an enthusiastic and by no means unaccomplished amateur, who bought the horse with the prime object of riding him himself. And it is with no disrespect of Mr. Craig-Hervey's ability that one mentions that in the Henry VIII Steeplechase this gelding was ridden by his trainer, R. Turnell, a seasoned professional jockey. But there is a wealth of difference between amateur and professional when it comes to riding over fences, and when Monsieur Beaucaire II was beaten, and beaten rather easily, by Mr. Hugh Sumner's Greek Flame in the Novices' Steeplechase run at Kempton Park on Boxing Day, some people were inclined to blame his owner-rider. I think that they were wrong to do so. Admittedly, R. Francis, who rode Greek Flame, can be calculated to out-ride and out-general the best of our amateur riders, but on this occasion it is probable that he was up on the best horse in the race. In fact, Greek Flame, who is by Flamenco, winner of the 1935 Lincolnshire Handicap and an established sire of jumpers, out of Greek Dance, a mare by Herodias, is probably the best of the novice steeplechasers seen out this season.

A NEW NAME ON THE PUTTER

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

G. T. DUNCAN—Duncan minor as opposed to his brother A. A., Duncan major—won the President's Putter of the Society at Rye, beating G. H. Micklem at the 19th hole. It was a grand battle, the kind of fight one would have liked both sides to win. Duncan is one of the hopes of amateur Britain, a fine young player with a fine style and a good, fighting, painstaking temperament, of just the right age, six and twenty. Victory ought to do him all the good in the world. On the other hand, one must sympathise with Micklem, his elder by eighteen years. One likes to see the founder of the feast devour the feast, and Micklem is the most indefatigable and unselfish of secretaries to whom the Society and this tournament owe a vast debt. I think his labours had made him tired, so that he rather threw the match away, but at least he threw it to a worthy conqueror. The weather is, I know, a terribly dull subject, but a word or two on it are necessary, because it is so terribly essential to this tournament. We give hostages to fortune to an appalling extent, we risk snow year after year and yet, touching wood, we get away with it. This time the sun shone divinely while London was lapped in fog, but the demon frost threatened and frost turns golf into skittles.

On the Thursday there was but little bone in the ground by the afternoon and Crawley, playing as if he meant to win yet again on his own course, was wholly magnificent; if golf was difficult he made it seem easy. He was out in 34 and though Alan Cave hung on like a hero, he could never quite do it. Huddy, the holder, played as if he fully intended to make it three Putters in a row; he was as majestic as even Crawley himself and passed on with utter ease.

On Friday there was still a little hardness in the turf but, take it all in all, there was immense cause for thankfulness. Crawley strode through again playing beautifully, and another and elder giant of past ages, Cyril Tolley, delighted everyone by winning two matches, against Neilson and Catchpole, in his fine, old, nonchalant, pipe-smoking manner. He played nearly very well indeed, steadily and accurately, with an occasional stroke of genius. Catchpole, his second victim, had earned much glory in the morning by beating Huddy. He is a good golfer, though not so good as Huddy, but the holder was a little baffled by the hard ground, was inclined to run through the green with an apparently good shot and now and again took three putts. Catchpole delivered one or two cruel blows, such as a four at the Sea Hole, out of a sandhill, and never grew frightened of winning.

A capital match, unnoticed except for a few, was between George Duncan and Lough. Duncan, whom I should be strongly inclined to put into a Walker Cup side tomorrow, played his game, which is a very good game, but he could not get away from the gallant Lough, who modestly admitted that he had played some six strokes better than his game. Duncan wanted a four for 71 when he won by two and one. There were two brave and protracted battles beween youth and crabbed age, and each stage of life gained a victory. Martin and Foster went to the 21st hole before Foster could win with a perfect four. He deserved to win because he hung on so gamely and holed putts to save his neck, when hope seemed almost gone. Martin missed too many doubtful putts: he "ought to have won" but in fact he did not. In the other match, old age in the form of Beck beat O'Brien, also at the 21st. He was once three up, was pulled down to all square, was two up with four to go and again lost his lead, and then, in Tom Morris's words, "warstled" through in the end with a gorgeous four.

On the Saturday morning (cold but blessedly unfrosty) he again went beyond the allotted span of holes to beat Foster at the 19th, after being three down with four to play. Youth missed a putt or two near the end, but who shall cast a stone at him? There were heaps

G. T. DUNCAN, THE WINNER OF THE PRESIDENT'S PUTTER, HOLDING THE PUTTER AFTER THE FINAL AT RYE

of other good matches, but two outshone the rest, in both of which the Duncan family was involved. The younger, George, beat Crawley by very fine golf indeed at the 17th hole. He played some lovely shots up to the pin and made very, very few mistakes, barring a gratuitously topped second to the Sea Hole. He won generally by playing the better golf, but particularly by a rush of sparkling golf in the middle of the round, winning four holes out of five beginning at the 8th hole. I had rather thought Crawley would win yet another Putter, but this was a very terrible young man. Then, when everyone expected a fraternal battle between the two Duncans, Tolley upset all calculations by beating the elder brother at the 20th hole, having been once three down. It was at the intensely important moment that he strolled up to a putt of some dozen yards at least and just knocked it into the hole. He continued to knock them from various distances all the way home. At the 18th hole Duncan missed a short one for the match—very unlike him but the greatest will do it—and that in effect ended it. I wish I had space to describe the incredible antics of Marsh and Bull and all the twos and threes that they did; but I have not and it must suffice that Marsh won by two and one and their best ball was seven under an average of four. Alas that in the afternoon Marsh, having recovered nobly, hurled away his match against Philcox, finally having an unsuccessful encounter with the club house. The heroic Beck made yet another come-back, but Krefting won at the 19th hole. Of course the great match was Tolley, now in his 60th year, against George Duncan. One hole had a lot to do with it. The two were all square going to the 12th and Tolley had apparently all the best of it. He played a rather weak approach, whereupon Duncan, with the match player's instinct for the critical moment, holed a good putt and won the hole, never to be seriously in danger again.

And so to the Sunday, which was very cold but as good as need be for winter golf, with Rye at its very best. The two semi-finals went, with all respect to the gallant losers, as they were intended to go. Both Philcox and Krefting had done enough and more than enough for honour, and Micklem, once he had a short lead on Krefting, never looked likely to lose; his holing-out was diabolically accurate and he took several holes, notably the 9th, out of his opponent's mouth. Duncan seemed likewise in "easy street" at four up with four to play, but he slipped and slipped again, and had Philcox holed a putt of five feet or so at the 17th he would have dragged his enemy to the last hole after all. And so to a nearly ideal final with a large crowd (I have never seen a rope at Rye before) to watch it. Micklem began magnificently—4, 2, 4, 5, 3—and was two up. He won the 6th to be three up and looked likely to win the 7th, but lost it to a good putt by Duncan, who was hanging on rather than playing well. Out in 35 Micklem was two up and still two up going to the Sea Hole. It has often been a hole of crisis and so it was now, for he took six and lost it. Then came the crucial hole, the 15th, where Micklem missed a yard putt for four, that would have made him two up, with the match almost in the hollow of his hand. He missed another at the 16th—all square; but he holed a vast and gallant one to halve the 17th in three and rob Duncan, who had played it perfectly. Again victory was in his grasp at the home hole, where Duncan had to play the two more from the edge of the green, but he was sadly short and needed three putts. Then Duncan turned and bit the hand that had let him off and won with a good four at the 19th. He can play better than in fact he did, but he had fought the good fight and is a fine golfer.

DUNCAN PUTTING ON THE 4th GREEN IN THE FINAL, IN WHICH HE DEFEATED G. H. MICKLEM AT THE 19th HOLE

HOPETOUN HOUSE, WEST LOTHIAN—II

THE SEAT OF THE MARQUESS OF LINLITHGOW

By JOHN FLEMING

The decorations, other than those in the rooms built c. 1700 by Sir William Bruce, range from between 1750 and 1768 and include some of the earliest designs of the Adam brothers. The house is regularly open to the public.

ALTHOUGH the exterior of Hopetoun House was substantially complete before William Adam's death in 1748, the interior decoration of his new front and wings still remained to be done. The family papers reveal that this work was prolonged through the 1750s and into the 1760s, for as late as 1766 negotiations were in progress for the purchase of looking-glasses for the drawing-room. It is, therefore, apparent that while William Adam, latterly assisted by his sons, was responsible for the exterior, the sons alone, John, Robert and James, designed the interiors of the new rooms. Those in the old part of the house, built by Bruce, were left untouched.

Sir William Bruce's staircase (Fig. 2) now stands in the centre of the house, ascending in an angular spiral and lit by an octagonal cupola. The walls are lined with oak panelling (now, alas, stripped of its paint), decorated with heavily carved festoons of fruit and flowers in the manner of Grinling Gibbons, which once framed some of the 37 paintings of subjects chosen from Ovid, Horace, Virgil and other Classical authors, executed in 1704 by Philip Tidemann, a native of Antwerp. A receipt records that he was paid 1,255 guilders for these decorations, from which it may be deduced that they were painted in Holland. Most of Tidemann's work for the Bruce house is still *in situ*—rather murky little panels, the identification of whose subjects will tease the patience of all but the most ingenious Classical scholars.

Stylistically the rooms in the Bruce house belong more to the 17th than to the 18th century, being of modest proportions, with panelled walls, some of which are hung with English or Flemish tapestries (Fig. 9). The largest of these is the old dining-room, in which the predominantly brown colour-scheme is relieved by touches of gilding on the cornice and on the capitals of the pilasters (Fig. 7). In the adjoining State bedroom, however, the panelling, painted white (Fig. 6), is decorated with a *trompe l'œil* cornice and trophies of armour and weapons in gold and green. It is no doubt the work of "Old Norrie," who later carried out similar *trompe l'œil* decorations elsewhere for William Adam. An unexpected feature of the Bruce house is the servants' staircase (Fig. 8), on which the flowing scroll pattern of the wrought-iron balustrade is remarkable, reminding one of the *art nouveau* of fifty years ago.

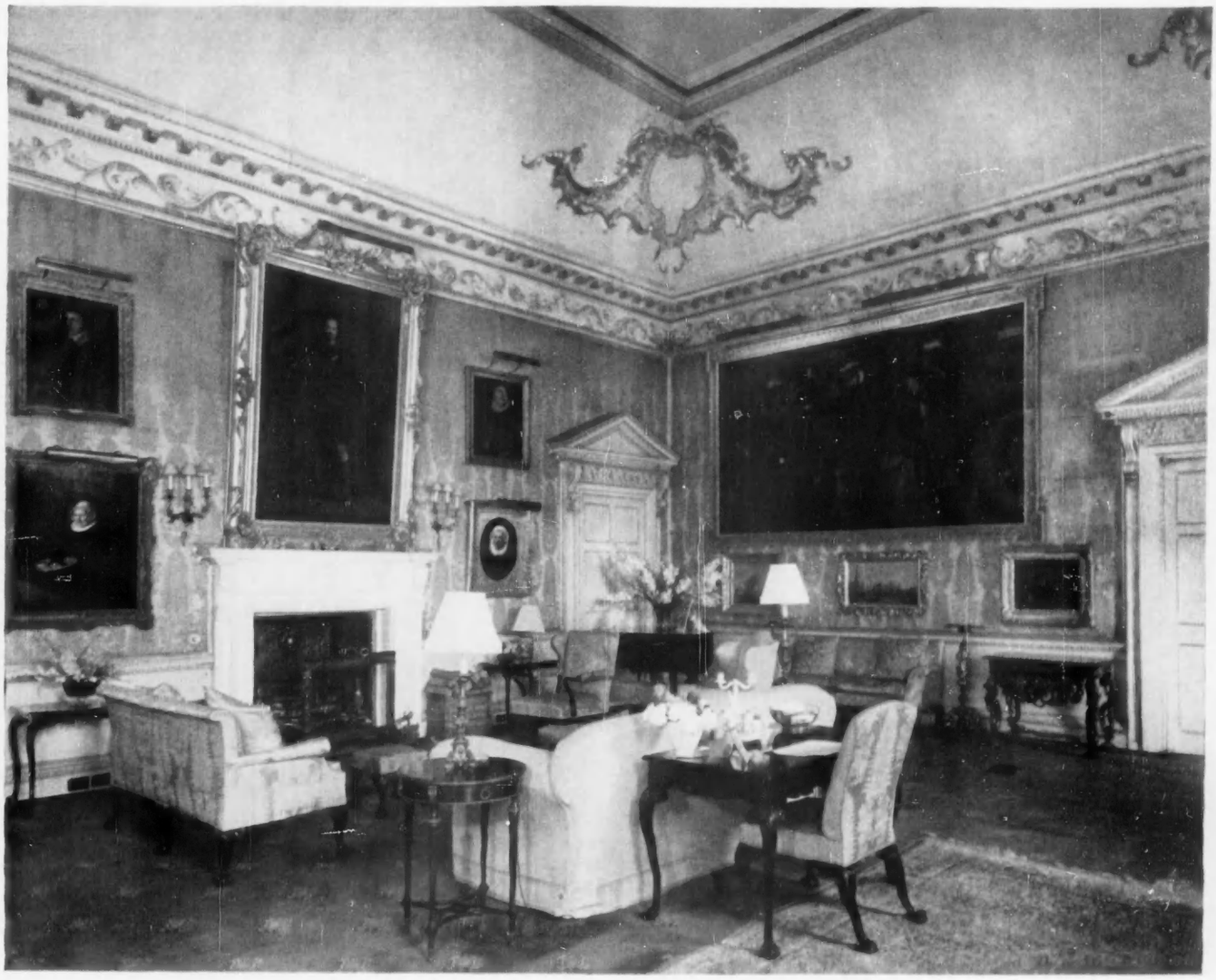
1.—WILLIAM ADAM'S EAST FRONT. From the south colonnade

2.—SIR WILLIAM BRUCE'S ANGULAR SPIRAL STAIRCASE. Oak-panelled, with carving in the Grinling Gibbons manner

Although the Bruce rooms have retained their original decorations, most of the furniture contained in them dates from the enlargement of the house by William Adam. We know from the Hamilton papers that William Adam was accustomed to act as an interior decorator in the modern sense of that expression, for he not only designed and oversaw the work of plasterers, carpenters and other craftsmen, but supplied furniture, fabrics, carpets and even pictures for his clients. To William Adam, therefore, is due that conception of a room, with all its furniture and fittings, as one artistic whole—a conception which Robert Adam was later to bring to its fine flower in the harmonious apartments that he designed for English clients. At Hopetoun, of course, no such delicate harmonies were achieved or even attempted, but the Adam brothers no doubt followed in their father's footsteps and supplied furniture from Edinburgh craftsmen, such as Shaw, with whom they were connected. Robert Adam was also commissioned to buy furniture in Italy for Lord Hopetoun, and in August, 1755, "bespoke for him Six of the prettyest Tables I ever Saw, which are making here (Rome), & if they escape the french & get Safe to the firth of Forth I hope will give him much content." Unfortunately, these tables cannot be traced to-day.

After his return to England, Robert Adam seems to have arranged for purchases from the London cabinet-makers, and the grander pieces at Hopetoun came from this source. There are, for example, among the Hopetoun papers, designs for a "Glass frame for the Gt. Bed Chamber order'd to be executed," dated January 23, 1767, and a "sketch of the top of Great Bed," dated February 2, 1768. A note, probably by the London cabinet-maker James Cullen, describes these as "valuable being designed & drawn by the famous Mr. Matt Lock lately deceased who was reputed the best draftsman in this way that has ever been in England." These drawings appear to be for the looking-glass and bed in the State bedroom (Fig. 6), which we may therefore suppose to have been made by Cullen to the designs of Mathias Lock, whose publications, with Copeland (1752-69), anticipated many in Chippendale's *Director*.

In another letter, dated February 26, 1768, Cullen refers to two commodes which were intended for the "Great bed chamber," one of which was to be of different coloured woods "which

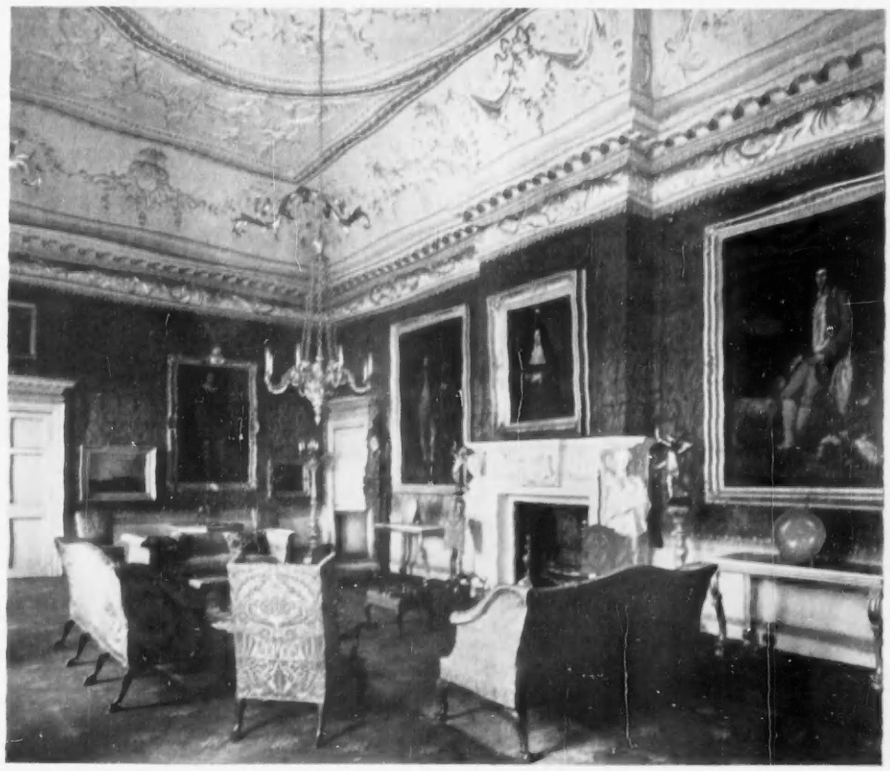


3.—THE YELLOW DRAWING-ROOM. The Adam brothers carried out the decoration in their father's style *c.* 1755

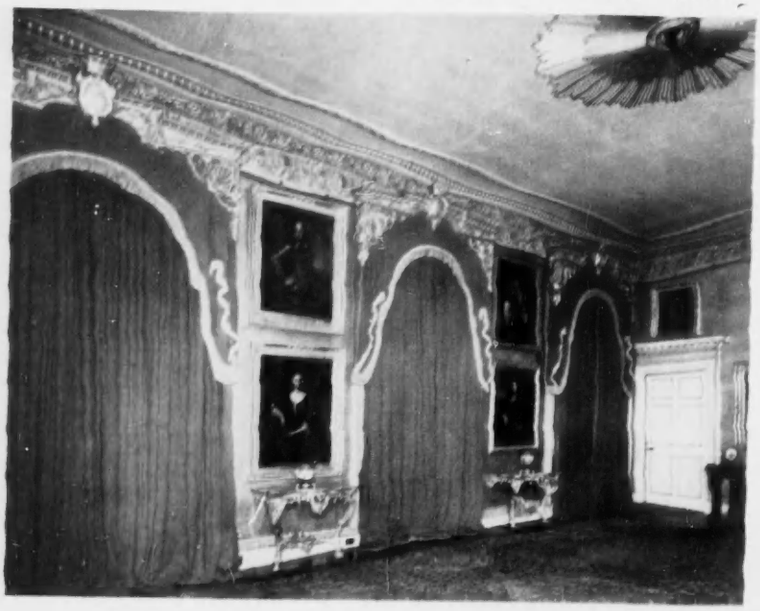
with good brasses has an effect that is generally approved here—the top is one long drawer & the bottom is two presses that have their doors in the end panels." Referring to similar ones which he made for Lord Waldegrave "that are on castors to turn them round & the doors are behind them," he then proceeds to remark, with reference to this curiously inconvenient arrangement, that they are "more intended to furnish and adorn than for real use." It is, therefore, almost certain that the exceptionally fine pair of *bombé* commodes in the old dining-room (Fig. 7), which have their doors behind, and a similar piece in the State bedroom, are the work of Cullen, about whom little is known except that his address was in Greek-street, Soho, and that he executed furniture for Blair Castle. The quality of his few known pieces suggests that he would repay closer study.

In passing from the Bruce house to the Adam rooms one moves from an atmosphere of *Gemütlichkeit* to one of princely magnificence. For all their cosy charm, the Bruce rooms have little of the grand or noble, which were the qualities most carefully to be cultivated in the interiors of the Adam brothers. In the four most important Adam rooms at Hopetoun one can almost see the style of the sons taking shape and emerging from the more ponderous, one might say more masculine, manner of their father.

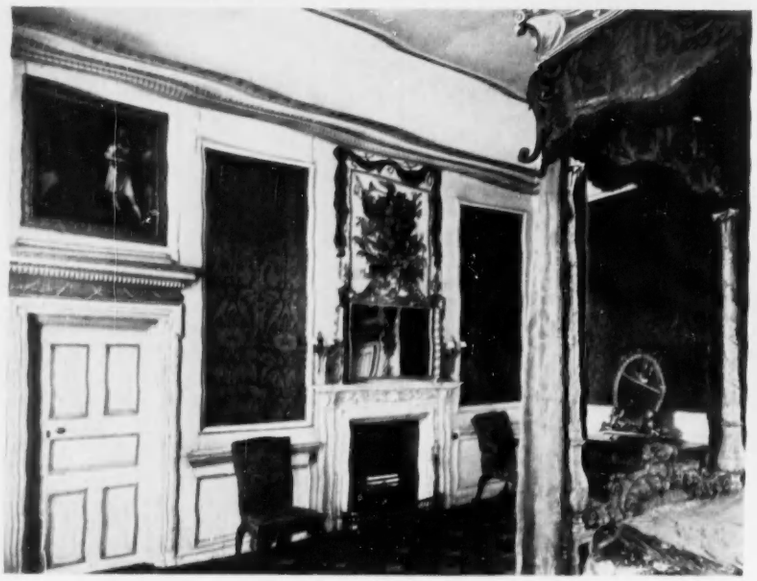
The least impressive of the Adam rooms is the entrance hall, which, indeed, comes as something of an anticlimax after the



4.—THE RED DRAWING-ROOM. EARLY ADAM ROCOCO DECORATION. The chimney-piece by Rysbrack, 1756, probably from a design by Robert Adam



5.—JUDGE'S RED CURTAINS IN THE STATE DINING-ROOM



6.—*TROMPE L'ŒIL* PAINTED CORNICE AND OVERMANTEL IN THE STATE BEDROOM

7.—IN THE OLD DINING-ROOM. THE REMARKABLE COMMODES ARE BY JAMES CULLEN, 1768

grandiloquence of the façade without. But its simplicity may well have been intentional, for it acts as a transitional passage between the old Bruce hall and the splendid new Adam Yellow drawing-room. A memorandum referring to the completion of the hall is dated 1752, but the room was not paved with white marble, which appears to have been brought from Holland, for another two years, and only in 1755 was an unobtrusive white marble chimney-piece installed. From the moment of entering the visitor is left in little doubt as to the loyalties of the Hopes, for on the one hand there is a painting of George II at Dettingen and on the other of the Duke of Cumberland at Culloden, both the work of John Wootton. Another picture in this room which demands attention is the portrait of Charles Hope (Fig. 10), a grandson of the first Earl and President of the Court of Session, which is one of the more striking achievements of Sir Henry Raeburn, who received the accolade at Hopetoun during George IV's visit in 1822.

To the north of the hall lies the Yellow drawing-room (Fig. 3), so called from the damask with which the walls are hung and the furniture upholstered. Although the decoration must be credited to his sons, William Adam's tradition

8.—SERVANTS' STAIRCASE, WITH REMARKABLE IRON-WORK *c.* 1700

has been faithfully preserved, though the general effect is lighter than anything he achieved. The quietened Rococo decorations in the four corners of the cove of the ceiling closely resemble those in the hall at Yester, which was one of his last works, and the excellence of the plasterwork suggests that Clayton was employed here as he had been by William Adam at the Drum, Holyroodhouse and elsewhere. Some of the furniture in this room has been attributed rather rashly to Thomas Chippendale, notably a pair of looking-glasses between the windows. These are more probably identical with those for which J. A. Cullen submitted a design in 1766, and it seems likely that he was responsible for the other furniture of the same date.

The room contains part of the collection of pictures for which Hopetoun has long been famous and which was formed principally by the fourth Earl in the third decade of the 19th century. Many of them, including the swagger portrait of the Marchese Spinola, by Van Dyck, and the big *Adoration of the Shepherds*, by Rubens, were bought in Genoa by Andrew Wilson, the painter, who bought in Italy for the Edinburgh Institution. A version of one of Rembrandt's portraits of his mother, dated 1634, also hangs in this room; it was bought for £210 between 1819 and 1823 from an unnamed dealer, who supplied several Dutch and English pictures. It is, perhaps, worth mentioning that Robert Adam was commissioned to buy pictures for Hopetoun in the 1750s, when he was in Italy, but found the Earl's requirements difficult to fill, "for first of all the price he allows is not sufficient for a Tip Top, & a Second Rate with those Qualifications he wants & the Dimentions he Stipulates, it is the Divil & all to find. I have people seeking in all quarters & have now extended my search to

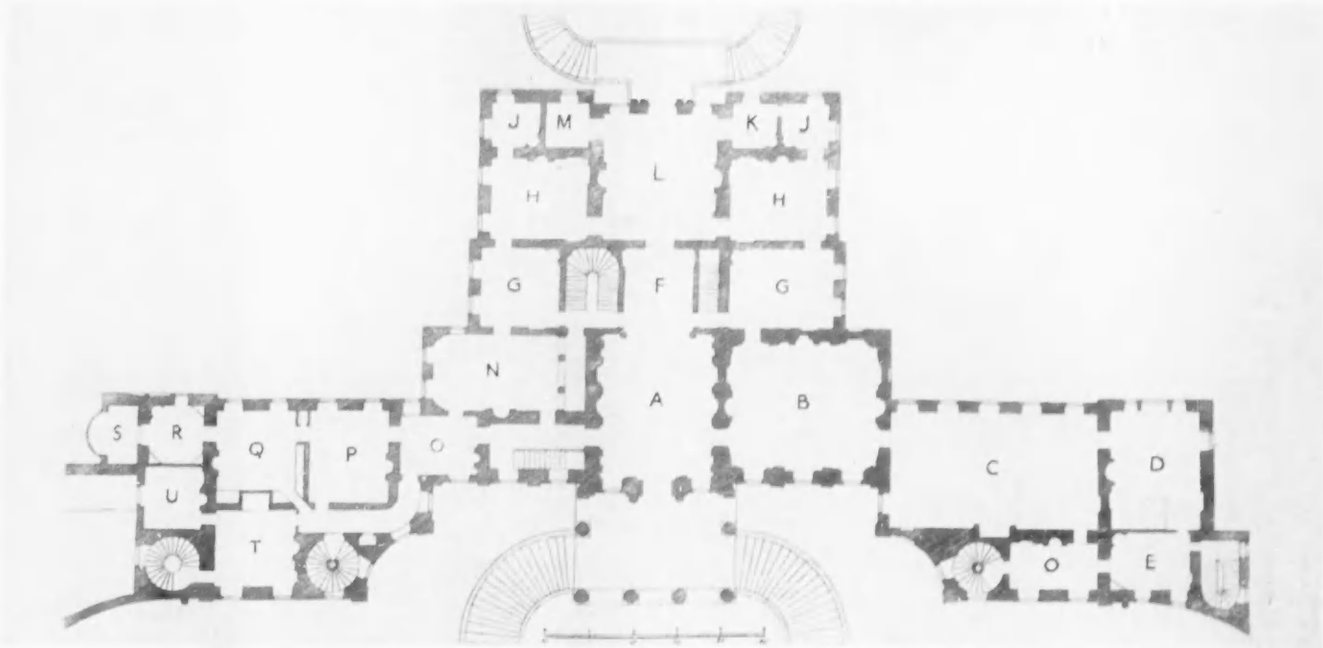
9.—THE WAINSCOT BEDROOM IN THE BRUCE BUILDING. (*Right*) 10.—CHARLES HOPE, BY SIR HENRY RAEBURN

Florence where there are some good Pictures but having Naked figures in them will not answer, & His Lordship may well know without Nakedness no pictures can be found. Italian painters are given to Nakedness as the sparks to fly upwards." In despair he ordered two history pictures, of the required size and with the figures heavily draped, from his master in figure-drawing, Laurent Pécheux.

The plasterwork in the Red drawing-room (Fig. 4) is more flamboyant than elsewhere in the house and combines with the monumental marble chimney-piece and the rich scarlet damask of the hangings and upholstery to make one of the most magnificent interiors not only at Hopetoun but in all Scotland. The chimney-piece, supported by caryatids, in the style favoured by Robert Adam in his early works, was carved by Michael Rysbrack in 1756, perhaps after a design supplied by Robert Adam from Rome in 1755. Among the furniture in this room is a somewhat fantastic table and looking-glass, both delicately inlaid with floral designs, and a pair of torchères, dating from the late 17th century, but having a refined elegance which is unusual at that period.

It seems probable that the State dining-room was among the last of the interiors to be completed. The ceiling is flat and undecorated, but the cornice is adorned with palmettes, which are repeated in the singularly delicate pelmet cases surmounting curtains of judge's red (Fig. 5)—a happy reminder of the family's distinguished associations with the law. Among the family portraits in this room are several by the more eminent Scottish painters, including Allan Ramsay, Raeburn, George Jameson and David Allan, who painted the full-length of the first Earl of Hopetoun, with the house rising outside his window and its plan before him on the table, illustrated last week. The most noteworthy of the family portraits is, however, that of Jane, Countess of Hopetoun, by Gainsborough.

Since the Adam brothers finished their work at Hopetoun very little has been done to alter the house either inside or out. New portraits bring the series down to the present day, and some of the Old Masters have been sold. Since the photographs for this article were taken the portrait of the Governess of the Netherlands by Van Dyck has passed to the Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool. But the house, which has never passed out of the family for which it was built, has retained all the essentials of its 18th-century distinction.



11.—PRINCIPAL FLOOR PLAN OF THE CENTRAL BLOCK, FROM *VITRUVIUS SCOTICUS*: A, Vestibule; B, Great Dining Room; C, Great Drawing Room; D, Principal Bed Chamber; E, Dressing Room; F, Tribune; G, Withdrawing Rooms; H, Bed Chambers; J, Dressing Rooms; K, Closet; L, Garden Parlour; M, Charter Room; N, Private Dining Room; O, Antechambers; P, Lady's Bed Chamber; Q, Lady's Dressing Room; R, Lady's Closet; S, Balcony; T, My Lord's Dressing Room; U, His Closet

MOORLAND PONIES IN LONDON

By R. S. SUMMERHAYS

THE London County Council are the owners of a herd of Exmoor ponies. That any public body should own and breed pure-bred ponies must be unique, and such a policy can be particularly commended when it has, as in this case, an educational basis. Apart from this, the ponies are kept to be of interest and to give pleasure to the thousands who visit the parks. I visited the ponies a short time ago, and passed four of them for registration in the Exmoor Pony Society's stud-book, and, under the guidance of Miss Sylvie Read, Superintendent of the London County Council children's zoos, I saw some at Hainault Forest in Essex. The others are at Maryon Wilson Park, Charlton, Kent, where there are two. The herd, in fact, consists of five mares and three geldings, while a stallion, Alfold Curlew, belonging to Captain F. Alex Howick, is with the mares.

London County Council

TWO EXMOOR PONIES GRAZING IN MARYON WILSON PARK, CHARLTON. The London County Council have ponies also at Battersea Park and the Crystal Palace

This is a good pony which has won five first prizes and three championships. In addition to these there are three Shetland mares, a charming skewbald matron of Shetland type, with her skewbald colt-foal, and a black Iceland pony.

Before I deal with these and the admirable policy of the London County Council, let me say a few words about the Exmoor. Cutting out that jargon which flows so easily from the lips of horsemen—the deep-set body, the well-sprung ribs, the short legs and so on (the Exmoor has all these, by the way)—he is by far the most distinctive of all native breeds and once seen cannot be mistaken. His muzzle is white to mealy, his nostrils are trumpet-like, his eyes prominent, almost bulging, set wide apart and surrounded by that mealy marking which the moormen call the toad eye. The Exmoor is mostly brown in colour and inside the thighs and forearms and around the belly is to be found this same porridgy colouring. Not one single white hair must be found in mane or tail. Most of our mountain and moorland pony societies claim varying degrees of purity and antiquity for their particular breed. It is claimed for the Exmoor that it is the purest and oldest, being the descendant of the native British wild horse, which, in turn, is said to be descended from the wild horse found by Przewalski in Mongolia. This may be so, and it can be noted that he bears some resemblance to the latter, at least in so far as they share the same mealy nose. That he is distinctive and extremely potent as a breeder is beyond question, and it is interesting that the moormen claim that once you cross an Exmoor you lose the mealy nose. I would not accept this as indisputable, but the further claim that, contrary to what is generally found in equine breeding, you cannot increase the height of the Exmoor, however richly or scientifically he may be fed, is probably correct.

Although a most placid looking fellow, the Exmoor probably takes longer to come to hand than any of our native ponies and he has the reputation of being a confirmed wanderer, for, given the opportunity, he will move ever onward, even leaving good pasture to do so. Again, far more than any other breed, he suffers from equine claustrophobia, breaking through or climbing over the most formidable objects. I once saw a mare take off from the cobble-stone floor of a cart-horse stable at Hawkridge, on Exmoor, and crash through a roughly boarded window 3 ft. 4 ins. wide by 2 ft. 10 ins. high, the window being about 4 ft. from the ground, or just about the height of the pony. A quite frightening display of determination to escape from captivity.

As well as the ponies, the London County Council have a fine collection of animals, birds and fishes, which during the summer season they show at their children's zoos at the Crystal Palace and Battersea Park. Quite a number of smaller mammals are to be found there too, as well as exotic fish, unusual waterfowl, and most of the different breeds of rabbits, guinea-pigs and so on. It is all very interesting, and not only to children.

The Exmoor and the other ponies have given an incredible number of rides to children. Indeed, I am told that in 1954 alone, 15,260 rides were given at the Crystal Palace, and if Battersea had provided just five more rides the total there would have been 20,000. I hear that the ponies are the most popular feature at the zoos and these figures certainly seem to bear this out. Each pony carries a pad (felt) saddle, no stirrups, and instead of reins there is a leather handle on the saddle for the rider to hold on to. The pony is led, of course, and wears a smart little bridle with the L.C.C. crest in coloured metal on each side of the brow-band. The Shetlands are used for drawing a small four-wheeled cart, rather like the wagonette of a by-gone age.

The Iceland pony takes a share in giving the children rides. As few pony enthusiasts have ever seen one of these, he is worth a visit. He has rather a large though by no means a plain head on a shortish neck; his shoulder, however, is very straight and his tail a little down the quarters, but his legs show an unusual amount of bone. A tough fellow altogether, who carries his head low and in consequence is a heavy mover in front. I am told that if he prefers not to turn round, all the pulling in the world leaves him quite unmoved—and unturned.

The future of the herd seems bright enough and it is obvious that their surroundings, whether at Hainault Forest or Charlton, suit them very well, for I understand that they have had a clean bill of health, which is rather what one would expect of one of our native breeds. Last spring, however, one of the mares, Speedwell, foaled twins, which is rare enough in the equine world. Unfortunately one of them died, leaving the mare with her colt-foal Arrowhead. To-day all five mares are believed to be in foal to Alfold Curlew and, if all goes well, visitors will enjoy seeing their foals next summer. Nothing can alter the fact that foals are most lovable and the Exmoor has just that little bit of substance and toughness which make him somehow especially endearing. Some or all of these foals will be the zoo's riding ponies of 1959, for in three years they will line up for their jockeys.

Each of the ponies now at work is something of a character in itself, but one and all, I am told, eat more or less everything that comes their way and the consumption of sweets of every description is a thing to wonder at. However, that they do well is obvious, and, sweets and other luxuries apart, they get all the normal feeding required by a working pony, which is quite necessary, because during the season they all put in a good day's work. They share, with other beasts, birds and fishes, the attention of eight girls at the Crystal Palace and up to perhaps sixteen at Battersea Park. Those ponies which were bred on Exmoor seem to have readily accepted the marked change to London's parks. Even John Fry, one of the geldings, who, it is said, took his daily pint of beer at a pub on Exmoor, seems well content with urban life. He has certainly dug himself well in and endeared himself to many thousands.

The appearance of the Exmoor in and around London is due mainly to the enthusiasm of Mrs. Speed, who has bred many good ponies and who was perhaps better known to the pony world as Miss Mary Etherington. There is no country in the world which has a greater number of pure pony breeds than the British Isles, each completely distinct from the other, many of them being the foundation stock of every type of horse and pony found here and elsewhere, with the exception of the Arab and thoroughbred. Cannot room be found by the London County Council or some other authority for the other breeds? In addition to the Exmoor and the Shetland, how about Scotland's sturdy Highland pony, the black Fell of Westmorland and Cumberland and the strong and active Dales whose home is to the east of the Pennine Hills? Of all our native ponies the Welsh mountain pony stands alone for sheer beauty, and down in the south, as next-door neighbour to the Exmoor, we have the small and lovable Dartmoor. And last of all (although we must not exclude Ireland's Connemara) is the New Forest pony, such a familiar sight to all who motor through those lovely parts. Never have all these breeds been seen together as a permanent exhibition. Could not the good example set by the London County Council be widened to cover all these breeds?

CARS DESCRIBED

THE FORD ESCORT

By J. EASON GIBSON

THE latest large company to enter the small estate car field are Ford of Dagenham, whose new models, the Escort and Squire, are based on the Anglia and Prefect saloon models respectively. It is of interest to note that this company also build a light van, known as the Thames, and there is a close resemblance between these five models, in the interests of keeping production costs at a reasonable level. The Squire is a de luxe version of the Escort, just as the Prefect is of the Anglia. I have recently carried out a test of the Escort, and my findings apply equally to the Squire, which is identical with the Escort except that it has more chromium plating and a more expensive appearance.

The engine, one of the few still in production which uses a side-by-side valve design, has a capacity of 1,172 c.c. and gives a total power output of 36 b.h.p. As the total weight of the complete car is only 16½ cwt., it can be appreciated that it will have a nippy performance. Although basically of an old design, the engine has the advantage of having been in use for so many years that its reliability can be taken for granted. The fact that this engine has been used with great success for many years in special trials cars is also a guarantee that it will withstand brutal over-driving. The sump has the rather small capacity of 4½ pints, but this disadvantage is offset to some extent by the provision of an oil filter in the lubrication system.

The framework of the car and bodywork is of integral construction, which gives rigidity without increase of weight. The suspension is basically similar to that on other Ford models, including the much faster six-cylinder Zephyr. Long vertical coil springs, mounted integrally with the wheel spindles, are incorporated with large telescopic double-action hydraulic dampers. The rear suspension is by semi-elliptic leaf springs, which have oil-less shackles, so that the number of greasing points is reduced. The rear suspension is also controlled by hydraulic dampers.

By its nature an estate car is a compromise and, as the Anglia saloon provides ample space for the passengers, special attention has been given on the Escort to providing accommodation for goods or luggage, although this has meant some neglect of the occupants' comfort. The seats have been moved forward, as compared with the saloon, and, while this has reduced leg room, it has avoided the overhang at the rear which is normal on many small estate cars.

Separate bucket-type seats are provided for the driver and front passenger—an admission that three people could not be carried abreast in comfort—and the makers have wisely used a central gear lever, which strikes one as much better than the fashionable but awkward steering-column type. The hand brake is mounted horizontally between the seats, and this too is much more convenient than the type fitted beneath the dashboard.

Generally speaking, the Anglia model obtained high marks for its seating arrangements when I reported on it in COUNTRY LIFE of April 22, 1954, but this estate car version seemed to me to fall short of the standard previously set. Any driver of over average height will find his eyes perilously close to the top of the windscreen and his legs doubled uncomfortably, while drivers of all heights will find that the seat squab is so nearly vertical that some discomfort is unavoidable. In my own case—I am admittedly over 6 ft. 4 ins.—I found that, when the driving seat was adjusted to suit me, there was little leg room left for passengers in the rear seat. Vision in all directions is very good—forward because of the low bonnet line, and to the rear because the rear opening is horizontal, like the tailgate of a lorry, with no pillars to obstruct the view. With the rear seat folded down it is possible to carry considerable loads. Slight modification would allow very long loads to be carried if the rear flaps were fully opened. This cannot be done at the moment, because, apart from anything else, the rear number plate is covered.

Since my road test of the Anglia both first and second gear ratios have been lowered, and so the available performance is obtained with rather more fuss than before. Synchromesh is provided only on top and second gears, and some skill is required to perform silent changes down to bottom gear, which one can require quite often when driving in traffic. An interesting point is that, although second and first gear ratios have been lowered, the overall fuel consumption has been noticeably improved since my test in 1954. At that time the average consumption, at 40 m.p.h. average speed, was 30 m.p.g., but with the Escort I obtained a figure of 36 m.p.g. at the same driving speeds. As there is no theoretical reason for this improvement one can only assume that the factory has devoted some attention to obtaining the ideal settings for both ignition and carburettor.

Like the Anglia, the Escort proved to be a most likeable car on the road. Whether it is being driven through heavy city traffic, or at the highest speeds of which it is capable on the open road, it responds eagerly to the demands of the driver. The steering is high-geared but light at all speeds, and variations in the road surface make little difference to the feeling of control which the driver enjoys. Up to around 55 m.p.h. the car in general and the engine in particular are unobtrusive, but over this speed some noise and vibration are heard and felt. At the speeds likely to be used by most purchasers the car is stable and secure, but if liberties are taken on corners there is some roll, although this is never enough to worry an experienced driver. After a good mileage with the car, and despite certain criticisms, my overall impression is of its willingness and agility. The harder one drives it on the open road the less important become one's complaints, and the more one is impressed by the combination of performance and economy.

During my test I did one longish run late at night, on deserted roads, and the average speed for this known route approached surprisingly close to the fastest I have achieved on cars costing many times the price of the Ford Escort. On this run the excellent headlight beam, which gave a good spread of light in the dipped position, was most helpful, as was the adequate cowling of the instruments, which prevented any stray light from producing distracting reflections on the windscreen. On the same run, which was done with the temperature below freezing point, the car heater gave a good blast of warmed air, and kept the windscreen free of mist. The heater is of the recirculatory type, and does not circulate fresh air from outside the car. Throughout my test the brakes proved most efficient, although they were being used in cold weather. There were no symptoms of fade, even after repeated hard applications from maximum speed, and a specially pleasing feature was that normal braking could be obtained with only the gentlest of pressure. The placing of the interior car heater on the bulkhead reduced the room for the driver's left foot, and necessitated careful placing of the foot to work the dipping switch.

As the bonnet is forward-hinged and the engine compartment roomy, routine adjustments are easy to carry out, and there is no need to thread one's arm through a maze of components. Parking and manœuvring in confined spaces is remarkably easy, partly because of the good all-round visibility, but perhaps more because of the high-geared steering, which allows the car to be reversed into a small gap with minimum movement of the wheel. In view of the fuel consumption figure I obtained during my test I see no reason why a careful motorist should not find it possible to average 40 m.p.g. It is worth pointing out that the fuel consumption I obtained was achieved without using premium-grade fuel, so there is a hidden saving here. The fog-lamp on the car I tested—a standard fitting—was adjusted so as to shine directly at the tree tops, and was of little practical value. If one bears in mind its basic price, the Ford Escort offers willing service, handiness and economy.

THE FORD ESCORT ESTATE CAR. There is excellent all-round visibility and no useless ornamentation

THE FORD ESCORT

Makers: Ford Motor Co., Dagenham, Essex

SPECIFICATION

Price	£688 16s.	Suspension	Independent (front)
(including P.T.	£223 16s.)	Wheelbase	7 ft. 3 ins.
Cubic capacity	1,172 c.c.	Track (front)	4 ft.
Bore and stroke	63.5 x 92.5 mm.	Track (rear)	3 ft. 11½ ins.
Cylinders	Four	Overall length	11 ft. 10¼ ins.
Valves	Side-by-side	Overall width	5 ft. 0½ in.
B.H.P.	36 at 4,500 r.p.m.	Overall height	5 ft. 3 ins.
Carb.	Solex	Ground clearance	7 ins.
Ignition	Coil	Turning circle	30 ft.
Oil filter	By-pass	Weight	16½ cwt.
1st gear	17.25 to 1	Fuel cap.	7 galls.
2nd gear	8.889 to 1	Oil cap.	4½ pints
3rd gear	4.429 to 1	Water cap.	11¼ pints
Final drive	Spiral bevel	Tyres	5.60 x 13
Brakes	Hydraulic		

PERFORMANCE

Acceleration	secs.		secs.
20-40	Top 18.6	2nd 7.0	
30-50	Top 16.0		
0-60 (all gears)		32.8 secs.	

Max. speed 69.0 m.p.h.
Petrol consumption 36 m.p.g. at 40 m.p.h.

BRAKES 30-0 in 40 feet (76 per cent. efficiency)

OLD SCOTTISH SPORTING PLATE

By IAN FINLAY

IN Scotland, as in England, authority for long looked with a jealous eye on the practice of pastimes which served no useful end. As early as the 15th century a decree went forth forbidding "fute-ball, golfe and uther sic unprofitabell sport." In 1491 James IV proclaimed that "bowis and schuttin be hanted, and bow markis maid therefor ordainit in ilk parochin, under the pane of fourtie schillings, to be raisit be the shireffe and bailies foresaid." So it is not surprising that among the earliest Scottish sporting plate to have survived archery and shooting trophies predominate.

Curiously, the two surviving early shooting trophies, if we accept their inscriptions, pre-date the earliest of the archery trophies. They are the "Siller-Guns" of Dumfries and of Kirkcudbright. Traditionally, they were presented by James VI to the trade incorporations of those two towns with the idea of improving the marksmanship of the citizens, and the date engraved on the first is 1598 and on the second 1587. In the case of the Dumfries gun (Fig. 1), which is now kept in the Dumfries Museum, the known date of the presentation was 1617, and it may be that in both cases the inscriptions are afterthoughts. Both guns consist of silver barrels only a few inches long. The Dumfries piece was originally mounted on a silver gun-carriage with wheels, but in 1808 one Alexander Kirkpatrick snatched it down from the post on which it hung and broke it, for which he was fined £3 6s. 8d.; and the gun was remounted with its present somewhat incongruous butt and stock, which make it look like some strangely clumsy flintlock sporting piece of the era just before the invention of the percussion lock. The Kirkcudbright gun has been left as a simple barrel to which a ring and shield are attached.

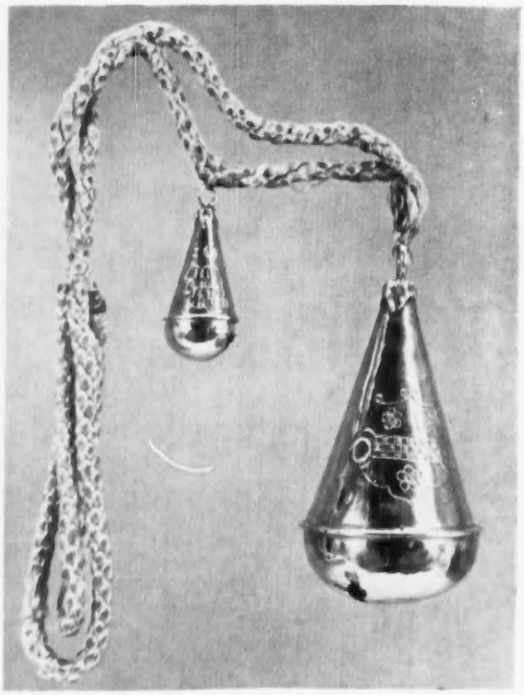
In former times the shooting for the silver gun was an important occasion in the burgh's year. At Dumfries, the day began at four in the morning, when the drums beat at the door of the Convener of the Hammermen Trade. A second alarum was beaten at six, when the trades assembled and, an hour later, moved to the White Sands in order of seniority. The actual shooting match on the Kingholm was conducted with great solemnity, no freeman being exempted from attendance "unless those above sixty years of age, or who are unable to attend from indisposition certified by a Surgeon." The last shoot took place in 1813.

1.—THE DUMFRIES "SILLER-GUN," THE BARREL OF WHICH WAS REPUTEDLY PRESENTED BY JAMES VI IN 1617

Archery was never so popular or so widely practised in Scotland as it was in England, but the weapon-showings, competitions and other means by which the authorities attempted to encourage it produced many trophies, some of which have survived. In fact, these trophies date from times when gunpowder had already spelt the end of the bow as an effective military weapon. The earliest appears to be the Musselburgh arrow. Some of the medals attached to it may be of the 16th century, and the earliest of the dated ones is of 1603. The arrow is in the keeping of the Royal Company of Archers, the Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland, which was formed in 1676 to revive "the noble and usefull recreation of archery." It is a curious reflection on this professed purpose that one of the Company's original rules required that "nane shall be licensed to arch within the said city of Edinburgh and suburbs thereof, but such as shall list themselves and be entered in the said Company."

The medals attached to the Musselburgh arrow are small and rather crudely engraved, but are extraordinarily interesting. An archer drawing a bow is the usual device. On three of the earliest the archer is no less than Cupid himself, but medals of later years of the 16th century generally show figures dressed in the style of the period. The first of the larger medals dates from 1704, when the competition was won by the noted Edinburgh goldsmith, Colin Mackenzie, whose lovely bullet tea-pots and other wares are now prized by collectors.

Later gold medals of the Royal Company are attached to the great silver punch-bowl of monteith type (Fig. 2), made by another Edinburgh goldsmith, William Ged, and inscribed with the date 1720. It was an annual prize, to be shot for "at rovers only," and the matches took place first on Leith and then on Bruntsfield Links. Most of the Company's trophies, however, take the form of silver arrows. Among them are the Edinburgh arrow (1709), the Selkirk arrow, the simple medals of which may point to the existence of a local goldsmith in that Border town, and the Peebles arrow, presented by Provost James Williamson, of Peebles, early in the 17th century. Silver arrow trophies also belong to the universities of St. Andrews and Aberdeen, and to the Ancient Society of Archers of Kilwinning. All are of 17th-century date.



2.—SILVER PUNCH-BOWL, HUNG WITH MEDALS, OF THE ROYAL COMPANY OF ARCHERS. (*Right*) 3.—THE PAISLEY RACING-BELLS. Early 17th century

4.—GOLD TEA-POT, MADE IN EDINBURGH IN 1737 AS A PRIZE FOR A ROYAL PLATE RACE. In the collection of the Earl of Rosebery

The Turf can claim two early trophies in the racing-bells of Lanark and Paisley. The Lanark bell, still used at the Lanark races, is traditionally supposed to have been presented to the burgh by William the Lion in 1160, but this advances its true age by more than five hundred years. It is hall-marked, but it is one of that very small group of Scottish pieces on which the maker's and deacon's marks are engraved, not punched. In this case, Robert Denneistoun, although his mark precedes the maker's, appears to be the deacon, which dates the bell between 1608 and 1610. Henry Lindsay is the maker. The medals of winners used to be attached to the bell by means of rings, but in 1898 the Lanark Race Committee had an elaborate silver stand made on which the medals now hang. Only one of them is old: it is inscribed "WIN·BE·ME·SIR·IOHNE·HAMIL-TON·OF·TRABROVN·1628." There is no record of the bell's having been raced for between 1628 and 1882.

The Paisley bells are two in number (Fig. 3). They carry no maker's marks or deacon's marks, but the larger seems to be one referred to in a minute of the Town Council of 1608, which suggests some connection with the appearance of the Lanark bell. The smaller is identical, but the shield engraved on it carries different arms, and it is a few years later in date. As at Lanark, the Town Council of Paisley is proud of its bells and preserves them in an elaborate silver-mounted case.

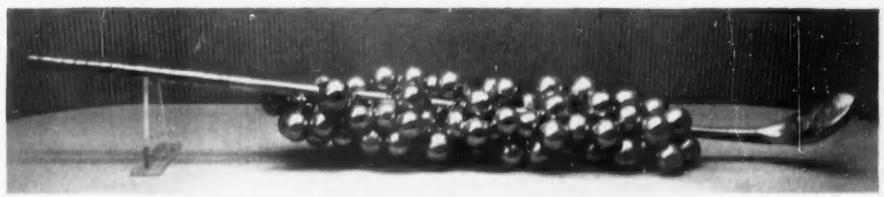
Several valuable gold trophies are associated with race-meetings in the Edinburgh area. The earliest and most interesting of them are the two tea-pots by James Ker, of Edinburgh. The earlier is engraved with the Royal Arms and with a picture of a mounted jockey under which is inscribed "Legacy 1736." Legacy was owned by an ancestor of Mr. Anthony de Rothschild, who formerly owned the tea-pot. It now belongs to Mr. Michael Noble. A similar tea-pot is in the collection of Lord Rosebery (Fig. 4). It is one year later in date. They are beautiful pieces, of bullet type, and must have been prizes for a Royal Plate race. Probably there were others, now lost or melted down, and there are two large gold covered cups which have been associated with the same race, both of them by Edinburgh goldsmiths of the 1750s. One of them is now in an American collection.

A more unusual racing trophy of this century is a silver basket-hilted broadsword in the collection of H.M. the Queen at Windsor. The hilt is by Robert Cruickshank, of Aberdeen, and an inscription records that it was "given by the Duke of Gordon and Winn at Huntly Castle the second Thursday of Sept. 1727" in a race for "All horses not exceeding 13 hands and 2 inches high." Cruickshank is the author of a handsome covered cup in the collection of the Marquess of Bute, which, as the inscription records, is also a racing trophy.

The traditional sport of Scotland is, of course, golf, and—as the latest history of the game records—every Scottish sovereign from 1502 to 1688 pursued it. In early games, however, competition was for wagers, not for trophies. Trophies do not seem to have been thought of until the 18th century. Earliest of them all is the silver club presented in 1744 by the City of Edinburgh to the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, a club to which every victor was to attach a gold or silver piece and to be called the Captain of the Golf. Cautiously, the city fathers laid it down that, having provided the silver club, "on no pretence whatsoever shall the city of Edinburgh be put to any sort of expense upon account of the playing for the said club annually except to intimate by tuck of drum through the city the day upon which it will be annually played for, and to send the silver club to Leith on the morning of the match." Leith Links were the venue for the competition, and were the traditional resort of Edinburgh golfers—"Dyvers inhabitants of this burgh repairs upon the Sabboth day, to the toun of Leyth, and in tyme of sermonis are sene vagant athort the streets, drynking in taverns, or otherwayes at Golf, aircheries or other pastimes upoun the Links," as a Town Council edict put it. The silver club belongs to the Honourable Company, now at Muirfield, in East Lothian.

The captaincy of the old golfing societies was decided by the competition for the silver club; and—as Mr. Robert Browning points out in his history of the game—when the captain-elect of the Royal and Ancient plays himself into office he is really taking part in a one-man competition! The Royal and Ancient possesses the second oldest of the silver clubs. It appears to date from 1754, as the oldest of the silver balls attached to it is inscribed with that date (Fig. 5). The trophy itself is made in the form of a wooden club of the time, carefully reproduced even to the cord lashing round the neck, the leather grip, and even the weight and the bone plate in the head, which, like the grip, are gilt. On the head is engraved a figure of St. Andrew. The silver balls suspended from the shaft by chains also reproduce the actual ball used in the year engraved on it, so that the St. Andrews club, like its fellows, carries a record in silver of the evolution of the golf ball. There are upwards of four score balls. It is disappointing that neither club nor balls carries any hall-mark or maker's mark. This is surprising, as most Scottish silver-ware from the late 16th century onwards is marked at least with an indication of its author, and generally also with the town mark, although regular date-letters are found only on Edinburgh and Glasgow pieces. The Royal and Ancient's club is so excellent technically that the maker was probably an Edinburgh goldsmith. The earlier of the clubs of the Royal Burgess Society is fully marked, and its date-letter represents the year when the first ball was attached to it: 1815, the year of Waterloo.

All three organisations mentioned possess other silver clubs, made to accommodate the balls of later years. In a few cases only—for example, when the Prince of Wales captained the Royal Burgess Golfing Society—the ball is of gold. The Royal Burgess Society possesses an interesting old water-colour showing the procession of the silver club in 1793 (Fig. 6). Two somewhat aged drummers provide the "tuck of drum," while the safety of the silver club is preserved by a truculent city guard armed with a Lochaber axe.



5.—THE EARLIEST SILVER CLUB OF THE ROYAL AND ANCIENT GOLF CLUB AT ST. ANDREWS. About 1754

6.—BEARING THE SILVER CLUB OF THE EDINBURGH BURGESS GOLFING SOCIETY. **A water-colour of 1793**

CORRESPONDENCE

DEER IN THE NEW FOREST

SIR,—Driving from Lyndhurst to Brockenhurst after the recent heavy rains I was held up by two hinds enjoying the westering sun on the dry road. When last, I wonder, was traffic held up on a main road in the New Forest by deer? Unfortunately, an impatient motorist had to hurry them off into the heavily flooded brushwood. Never before have I seen deer in this area of the forest.—B. S. MORRIS, *Milford on Sea, Lymington, Hampshire.*

THE MARQUESS'S LEG

SIR,—The Marquess of Anglesey's leg (December 29, 1955) was amputated in a house opposite the Duke of Wellington's headquarters at the Battle of Waterloo. The limb was put in a little wooden coffin and buried under a tree in the garden behind the house. Later a board was fixed to the tree with this notice:

Here lies the Marquis of Anglesey's leg,
Pray for the rest of his body, I beg.

Subsequently, when sightseers went to the battlefield, they had their attention drawn to the house, which was known locally as the House of the Leg. After the Marquess died, in 1854, his family arranged for the removal of the leg in its coffin, and it was placed with the other remains in the family vault at Lichfield Cathedral.—T. G. SCOTT, 19, *Granville-road, Fallowfield, Manchester, 14.*

CHRISTMAS PLACE NAMES

SIR,—Bywayman asks the origin of the place name Christmas (December 22, 1955), mentioning Christmas Common and Corner near Watlington, Oxfordshire. There are various explanations for this and others. Probably those in Surrey, such as Christmas Pie, Wanborough, are associated with the family of Thomas John Christmas, as are probably Christmas Hill, Shalford, and Christmas Farm, Horley, that family being native to Surrey. But at Watlington, Oxfordshire, Christmas Coppice and hence Common and Corner may well have been places where holly trees grew, the association of holly and Christmas being an ancient one. Christmas tree is a dialect term for holly. Christmas Hill Wood, Kimpton, Hertfordshire, is also probably a place where holly trees grew, but Christmas Hill, Bishops Itchington, Warwickshire, is probably identical with Christemelhull or hill on which was a cross.—GORDON N. SLYFIELD, 47, *North-parade, Horsham, Sussex.*

CAUSED BY RAIN?

SIR,—I photographed the plane tree with the curious reptilian markings on the underside of a branch shown in the accompanying photograph in the grounds of the Friary, Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire—a tree under which Byron used to sit.

The markings I believe to be caused by rain-drops continually running in the same narrow courses, so keeping bands of the bark clean. They are nothing to do with the bark-shedding habits of the plane tree.

Similar markings can be observed occasionally on the underside of "swan-necks" of down-pipes from house gutters.—G. BERNARD MASON, 33, *Northlands-road, Moseley, Birmingham, 13.*

MARKINGS ON THE UNDERSIDE OF A BRANCH OF A PLANE TREE

See letter: Caused by Rain?

A PRESENTATION SNUFF-BOX

SIR,—With reference to Sir Eric Stuart Taylor's query (December 15) concerning the engraving on his silver snuff-box, the term adventurer, used in this instance specifically in connection with the Cornish mining industry, originates from the tin-streaming days of the 16th century and was applicable to both working and non-working shareholders in a tin works as distinct from the hired labourer.

The cost-book system (under which profits from the workings were divided among shareholders) also dates from this period and the term adventurer remained in use throughout the centuries until the old system of profit sharing was abolished.

At the close of the 17th century St. Austell was one of the main tin-mining districts in the county. In the early years of the 18th a copper smelting house was erected at Polruddan, although no copper was found in the area at the time. The St. Austell copper mines came to the fore only after 1812, and great resources were discovered until the copper slump of the 1860s, when tin regained its lost position as the mineral of Cornwall.

The transitional stage, however, was to see the closing down of many mines. This was in turn followed by the tin slump of the '90s, culminating in the almost complete abandonment of the Cornish tin industry in the earlier years of the present century.—W. G. J. LEWIS (Miss), 8, *Marlborough-parade, Hillingdon Heath, Middlesex.*

ALL IS VANITY

SIR,—Since you reproduced my picture *Vanitas Vanitatum* in *Collectors' Questions* in your issue of October 27, 1955, I have received from Capt. Spencer-Churchill a photograph of a similar picture belonging to him which I send with his permission. Capt. Spencer-Churchill's picture is signed by the artist, Hendrick Andriessen, on the long scroll, and he has painted a small self-portrait in the reflection in the knop of the candlestick. The sword with the unicorn or white horse on the hilt does not appear in this painting, but the crown, the George and the sceptre are all there. Indeed, most of the objects are the same, but differently arranged, and as the style is the same there is no doubt in my mind that my picture is by the same hand.

Hendrick Andriessen, according to Bryan, was born in Antwerp about 1607 and died in Zeeland in 1655.—JOHN WATSON, 51a, *Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2.*

[Comparison of the two pictures suggests very strongly that they are by the same hand. As Andriessen died in 1655, the introduction of the crown, the sceptre and the George will have had topical significance, assuming that the pictures were painted during the Commonwealth after the fall of the monarchy in England.—ED.]

VANITAS VANITATUM. THE PICTURE IS SIGNED BY THE ARTIST, HENDRICK ANDRIESSEN, WHOSE SELF-PORTRAIT APPEARS IN MINIATURE IN THE REFLECTION ON THE KNOP OF THE CANDLESTICK

See letter: All is Vanity

MILKING COWS IN ST. JAMES'S PARK

SIR,—With reference to the letter about milking cows in St. James's Park, in 1893 my parents had a house in the Sanctuary, Westminster Abbey, where we went for the season from our Herefordshire home. We passed the milkmaids with their cows and stall almost daily, for their stand was on the edge of St. James's Park and the Horse-Guards' Parade, close to the Duke of York's steps. We were forbidden to go near the cows and their owners.

In 1894 I married the Vicar of St. Stephen's, Rochester-row, S.W.1. On one of the first walks he took me to be introduced to his parishioners from Mills Yard, who kept these cows and rented their stand from the municipal authorities, and he insisted on my having a glass of new milk direct from the cow and bought oranges and nuts, to the owner's delight.

About two years later the Ecclesiastical Commissioners sold

Mills Yard, but the lifelong tenants refused to leave their so-called wooden houses of one storey with a balcony, under which were sheds that housed the St. James's cows, besides donkeys pigs and poultry. This ancient dwelling was built round the three sides of a horse pond and a staircase at each end led to these costers' homes. These inhabitants with their neighbours from Strutton Ground put up a fight when the bailiffs and police tried to eject them. The struggle became formidable and the police begged my husband to help them. Within three hours he had persuaded them all (animals too!) to leave quietly and contentedly. Within a year a model fire station was a sight to behold on what once had been a most unsavoury site.

One young widow kept her cow and stall in St. James's Park, as she found a lodging for herself and cow in Horseferry-road. Our two children thought it a great treat if their old nurse allowed them to share a glass of frothy warm milk with the nursery maid and to buy oranges. It was in 1901 that the poor woman and her cow died within a few days of each other.—AGATHA TWINING (Mrs.), *Sudbury Hill, Harrow, Middlesex.*

We have also to thank the following correspondents for writing about the cows in St. James's Park: C., Basingstoke; B. and A. B., London; E. S. T., Lymington; W. E. A., Bath; J. C. McC., Watford; S. C.-H., Buckfastleigh; R. E. C., Reading; M. N. C., Market Harborough; A. P. H., Beattock; W. T. H., Cheltenham; and W. B. P., Welwyn.—ED.]

SNOW ON THE FELLS

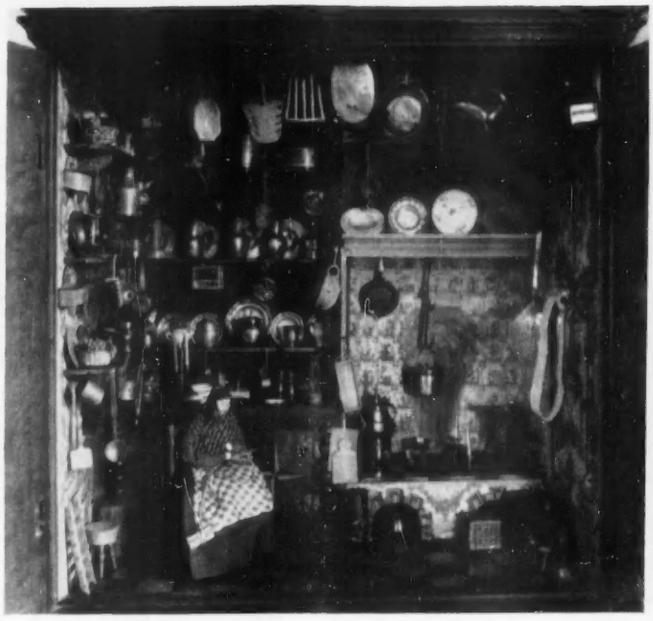
SIR,—I much enjoyed Mr. Poucher's article *Snow on the Fells* in your issue of December 22, 1955.

The trouble about winter fell-walking is, of course, the short day and the fact that it may be difficult to estimate what conditions will be like on the tops. I was pleased to read his "inflexible rule of leaving the summit cairn no later than 2 p.m." Evidently he also was brought up in the school which taught us that the unforgivable sin was not to die of exposure on the mountains, but to cause numerous other people a lot of bother finding your body and bringing it back.

The winter walks I remember best were those we used to take on Christmas Day. When I returned to Kendal from South Africa in 1934 the Christmas summit became an established ritual. Our women-folk liked nothing better than to get us out of the house soon after breakfast so that they could prepare the evening meal undisturbed, and it is hardly necessary to say with what gusto we sailed into the turkey and plum pudding after a really healthy day's exercise.

I shall never forget Christmas Day of 1938. We decided upon Bow Fell, and went up by Rosset Ghyll and Esk Pike. It was warm and overcast, but at about 2,500 feet we came out of the clouds into brilliant sunshine. The tops of the Scafell group and Great Gable stood out perfectly, but what interested us most was looking over 38 miles of fleecy cloud to the south and east and seeing the peak only—the curious flat top—of Ingleborough. I often thought of that view in the six foul years that followed.

Luckily I got home from the Pacific for Christmas of 1945, and a friend from the Alpine Club and his wife came up. We had both had a war which had not improved our physical condition, and we decided that we must climb a respectable peak, but one which involved the minimum of effort. We drove to Coniston and walked up the road to the copper mines. We soon learned just how unfit we were. On the waste heaps we ate our sandwiches in moody silence, each dreading the thought of the ridiculously easy climb to the summit and hoping that the other would suggest an early return. I should like to think that it was the bulldog breed in us, or the rivalry between Navy and Army, which took us to the top, but I am afraid it was my suggestion that we should finish the whisky when we got to the cairn which proved to be the ultimate incentive!—PAUL N. WILSON, *Castle Lodge, Kendal, Westmorland.*



A DOLL'S KITCHEN, PROBABLY DATING FROM THE END OF THE 17th CENTURY

See letter: Dutch Doll's Kitchen

DUTCH DOLL'S KITCHEN?

SIR,—You may be interested to see a photograph of a doll's kitchen which we have had in the family for just over a hundred years. The kitchen, including the moulding, is 36 ins. wide and 40 ins. high, and it is on a plain stand, which is 23 ins. high. The whole is in oak and very heavy. It appears to date from the end of the 17th century, and one little pewter dish has the Tudor rose and is dated 1691 or 1697. In spite of this, it would seem to be of Dutch origin.—FLORENCE KINKELIN (Miss), *Pincot Cottages, Stroud, Gloucestershire.*

PACKHORSE BRIDGES

SIR,—On a track, now apparently unused save as a footpath, between Rode and Woolverton is Scutt's Bridge, a packhorse bridge which has escaped the notice of most of the writers of Somerset guide-books. Little more than three feet wide, it is yet an unusually large packhorse bridge, for it spans the River Frome with three semi-circular arches and it can boast cutwaters which would look massive even on a highway bridge. Scutt's Bridge, which probably dates from the 16th century, stands well away from any of the recognised packhorse bridge areas. It is, however, possible that packhorse bridges are more numerous and more widely distributed than most people think. I was surprised a few years ago to be told of a packhorse bridge (which I have never found) some fifteen or sixteen miles away, in the Melksham direction.—J. D. I. WARD, *Rodhuish, Watchet, Somerset.*

STRANGE BEHAVIOUR OF BLUEBOTTLES

SIR,—The warm days of summer stayed with us here in Nicosia, Cyprus, right to the end of October, and the flies stayed too. But with the first cold day they ceased to fly around as actively as they had and settled in any warm place. In order to get rid of them I sprayed them with an insecticide, and was extremely surprised to see a large bluebottle buzzing about on its back on the floor busy, as I thought, laying eggs. In fact, it was dying from the effects of the insecticide and was producing, direct from its abdomen, live maggots.

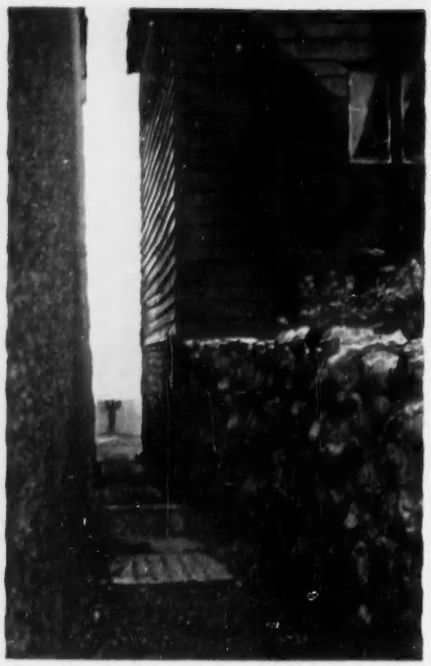
In order to check what I felt was quite an odd occurrence I stalked bluebottles for some days and eventually found two more which behaved in exactly the same manner and produced live maggots. Is this unusual, or is there a simple explanation?

During October, I saw numerous humming-bird hawk-moths in flight during the day. The temperature was frequently in the region of ninety degrees and the sun very bright, yet these attractive insects darted from zinnia to zinnia, hovering awhile with tongues poking the stamens. At home I found that the evening was the best time to see these moths and never recall seeing them so active in broad daylight. Can you say if they are as nocturnal as I think they are, or are they normally to be found in hot sunshine?—WILFRID PINK (Wing-Comm.), *H.Q., No. 24 R.A.F. Police District, B.F.P.O. 53.*

It is not unusual for bluebottle flies to revert to viviparous habits in certain conditions, producing live maggots instead of eggs. The insects breed rapidly and lay eggs normally in the height of the season, but as there is a succession of broods some of them get caught when the weather turns cold. Those found in the house in question were searching for a suitable place for laying their eggs, but owing to the effect of the insecticide action was delayed and they produced the young in a last desperate effort. Female insects are very persistent and tenacious. Cases have been

SCUTT'S BRIDGE: A LITTLE-KNOWN PACKHORSE BRIDGE ACROSS THE RIVER FROME, IN SOMERSET

See letter: Packhorse Bridges



NARROW GAP BETWEEN BUILDINGS ON THE SEA WALL AT WHITSTABLE, KENT

See letter: For Shipwrecked Mariners

known where they have been "killed" with cyanide, pinned up and set as specimens, and then have come to life a day later and finally produced a brood.

The humming-bird hawk-moth is a well-known day-flier in this country, and may be seen any bright day in August hovering over petunias and other suitable tubular flowers, sipping out the nectar, but it will also come out for a second session at dusk.—ED.]

FOR SHIPWRECKED MARINERS

SIR,—In the older part of Whitstable there are a considerable number of narrow pathways running inland between the houses. I always imagined that, apart from making useful short cuts, they were partly preserved to allow the flood water from exceptionally high tides to escape through to the lower land behind, and so not to remain in the houses. The extreme narrowness of some of these paths also lent credence to this theory. One, at least, known locally as Squeeze Guts, is far too narrow for the average person to walk through, except, perhaps, crabwise.

However, some residents who own a property on the sea wall itself tell me that the path which divides their garage and boathouse from the house is described in the deeds as a "Shipwrecked Mariners' Escape Way." Apparently, although the pathway is private property, it must not be obstructed in any way in order that should a ship be wrecked the sailors may easily reach help.

I should be interested to know if such paths exist in other coastal towns.—N. M. WOODALL, 1, *The Cross-roads, Southbourne, Bournemouth, Hampshire.*

COCONUT FOR TITS

SIR,—The point raised by Mrs. Cowlin in your issue of December 22, 1955, has been discussed over and over again. I can only state that I have attached coconuts to all my tit boxes and trees for over thirty years, and the tits have certainly suffered no ill effects.

With all due respect to Major Maxwell Knight, whose views you quoted, tits, like other birds, know far better than we do how to feed their young, as well as themselves. Though I have often left unfinished coconuts hanging on tit boxes in the spring, one will observe that, as soon as caterpillars and other natural foods appear, tits have no further use for the coconuts, and they certainly never feed their young on this type of winter food.

In the 1920s coconuts cost 1d. Now they are 1s. 3d., but the tits are well worth the extra cost of living.—W. H. DIGGLE (Lt.-Col.), *Hunters Hall, Old Malton, Malton, Yorkshire.*

ARCHERY GROUNDS

SIR,—The accompanying photograph shows the wide open space enjoyed in perpetuity by the village of Barton, in Cambridgeshire. This was the village archery ground and, as such, was protected from all encroachments. There must have been many of these archery grounds in the country, and at this time when open spaces are continually being built upon—despite protest—it would be interesting to know if there are other places which can claim immunity as an archery ground.—RICHARD GALE, 3, *Harbour View-road, Parkstone, Dorset.*

LOCAL BUILDING PRACTICE

SIR,—Mrs. Jones, in her letter in your issue of December 22, 1955, seems surprised to find the use of reed as a key to plaster in Lincolnshire. The use of reeds for this purpose was widespread in this part of the east Midlands until quite recent times, more for internal walls and upper storey floors than for roof-lining. Speed, writing in his *Atlas* (1627), records of Nottinghamshire: "Therein groweth a Stone softer than Alabaster, but being burnt maketh a plaister harder than that of Paris; wherewith they floor their upper Rooms; for betwixt the Joysts they lay only long Bulrushes, and thereon spread this Plaister, which being thoroughly dry becomes most solid and hard, so that it seemeth rather to be firm stone than mortar, and is trod upon without all danger." The stone to which Speed refers is gypsum.

In this house, built in 1663, not only are the upper storey floors of the usual plaster, but the massive beams in the roof, beneath which were the servants' attics, were faced with plaster laid on rushes; the plaster was of alabaster smoothness, the art of obtaining which has now been lost.

In the adjacent dower house, built in 1811, the upper floors are also plaster and some of the internal walls were made by erecting wooden uprights, nailing laths across each side of them retaining reeds, and covering the whole with plaster.

There are so many floors and walls of these materials in the older houses and cottages in the Vale of Belvoir that we take them as a matter of course.—T. C. BLAGG, *Brunsell Hall, Car-Colston, Nottinghamshire.*

TWEEDSMUIR HILLS

SIR,—Miss Caroline Tudor's article on the Tweedsmuir hills (December 15, 1955) must have drawn the attention of many of your readers to this very beautiful countryside. However, I must attempt to improve her survey of the country round the headwaters of Tweed, which for some ten miles along the main road to Moffat is over 800 feet high. For this reason the land does not produce corn and to win hay is a struggle, but the "scant pasturage" carries some of the best sheep stock in the south of Scotland. The highest farm, at 1,200 feet, near Source of Tweed, is now noted for its Galloway cattle.

Referring to the communities in the dales and the shepherds of Ettrick and Yarrow, Miss Tudor writes: "there is modest prosperity where fifty years ago poverty was unrelieved, and education is penetrating gradually into the last fortresses of ignorance." This is a most unhappy and erroneous statement, for as a class there are few country people who are more intelligent, thrifty, independent, and well educated in the things that matter than the Border hill farmer and shepherd. This holds true for generations back.—W. A. J. PREVOST, *Craigieburn, Moffat.*

THE ART OF FEATHERWORK

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of a beautifully made firescreen in which the decoration is worked entirely in bird's feathers, unpainted and undyed, on watered silk. It is believed to have been executed for a Scottish peeress—hence the coronet at the top of design—by a lady renowned for her skill in this form of artistic decoration. I understand that the woodwork of the frame dates from about 1860, at which time featherwork was a popular pastime. Perhaps some of your readers will be able to give me further information about this firescreen.—NORMAN KENNEDY (Comm., R.N., Retd.), *Summerbank, Brechin, Angus.*

A VICTORIAN FEATHERWORK FIRESCREEN

See letter: The Art of Featherwork

LETTERS IN BRIEF

A Stone as an Anchor.—On December 22, 1955, you mention the fact that bulls being baited were sometimes anchored to a stone. Seventy years ago pony-traps in the country sometimes carried a heavy stone with a rope by which the stone was tied to the pony's bit while the owner was away.—C. A. KNAPP (Capt.), *Bournemouth, Hampshire.*

Sea Buckthorn.—I am pleased to be able to tell your correspondent (November 24, 1955) that the bushes of sea buckthorn at Tenby were in great splendour when I saw them in November, but not so thickly covered with berries as he found them. Perhaps birds and the lateness of the year accounted for this.—JOHN CRAGGS, *Tenby, Pembrokeshire.*

Growing Dates from Stones.—I was interested to read in a letter from a reader of Harpenden, Hertfordshire (December 15), that date stones thrown on to a rubbish heap have since germinated. In my bedroom in our London home I have grown not only dates from stones but also lemons, oranges, grape-fruit and grapes from pips. They are not quite a year old, so are not very tall yet, but I hope to keep them alive this winter.—MARGARET HOHLER (Mrs.), 32, *Montpelier-square, S.W.7.*

THE ARCHERY GROUND AT BARTON, IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE

See letter: Archery Grounds

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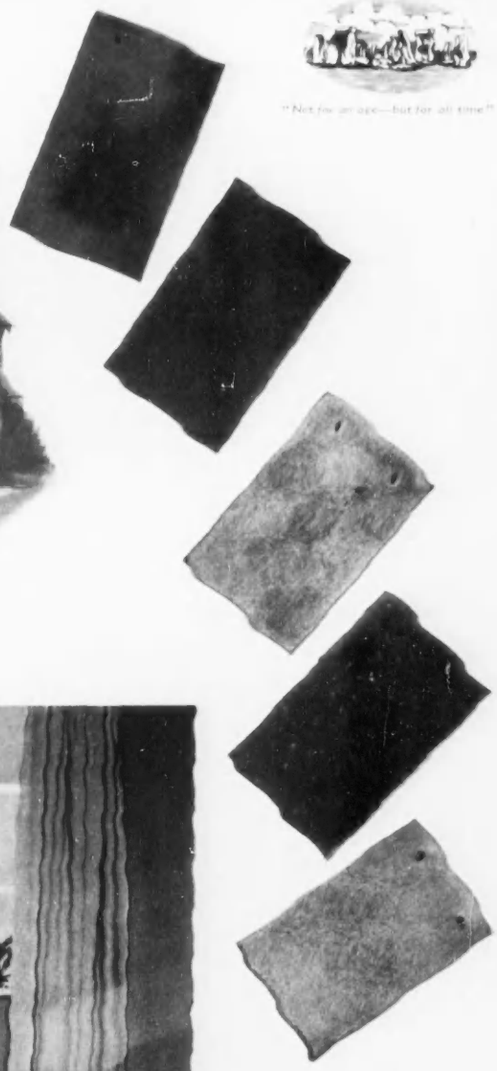

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A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

TRIO

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

A SPECIALIST writer usually sticks his neck out at this time of year, by ranking the first dozen in his sphere of interest, awarding his "Oscars" for outstanding performances and listing the highlights of the past season. Being more cautious, I shall confine myself to a few oddments which appealed to me in one way or another.

First, a defensive problem which baffled a world champion in actual play, so you need not despair if you have to turn to the solution at the end of the article. West deals with both sides vulnerable. Bidding by West and East: One Club—One Heart; Three Clubs—Three Hearts; Four Hearts. The hands of West (dummy) and South are as follows:

♠ 8
♡ A 5
◇ A J 3
♣ A Q J 10 8 3 2

N / W E / S

♠ K 9 5 3
♡ Q 6 2
◇ K 7 4
♣ K 6 4

Play to the first four tricks:

South	*West*	*North*	*East*
♠ 3	♠ 8	♠ A	♠ 2
♠ 5	♡ A (!)	♠ J	♠ 7
♡ Q	♡ 5	♡ 4	♡ 9
♠ K	♣ 2	♠ 4	♠ Q

What should South lead at trick 5?

* * *

Next, a bidding problem from the *Bridge Magazine* feature, *Twenty Questions*. West deals, his side only being vulnerable. Bidding starts with One Spade by West, pass by North, Two No-Trumps by East. South holds:

♠ 6 5 ♡ J 6 ◇ 9 8 7 ♣ A K Q J 4 2

What should he say?

* * *

There is nothing sensational about the hand below, but I was much intrigued when I saw it played in the European championships at Amsterdam.

♠ J 10 8 6 4
♡ 10 4 3
◇ K 10 7
♣ A 8

♠ K 5
♡ 9 8 5
◇ J 4 3
♣ K 10 9 6 3

N / W E / S

♠ Q 9 7 2
♡ K Q
◇ A Q 8 5 2
♣ J 2

♠ A 3
♡ A J 7 6 2
◇ 9 6
♣ Q 7 5 4

Dealer, West. Neither side vulnerable.

Bidding:

West	*North*	*East*	*South*
No bid	No bid	1 Diamond	1 Heart
2 Clubs	2 Hearts	No bid	No bid
No bid			

The match was between Ireland and Holland in the women's section, the Irish players in the open room being Mrs. Spiro (West) and Miss McNulty. Play started as follows:

Trick 1, West made the attacking lead of King of Spades, taken with the Ace. 2, South returned the suit, the Knave losing to East's Queen. 3, Knave of Clubs led to Four, Six and Ace. 4, Ten of Spades, South throwing a Diamond and West ruffing. 5, Three of Diamonds led to the King and Ace. 6, Queen of Diamonds, ruffed by South. 7, Ace of Hearts, South's prospects improving with the fall of East's Queen. 8, Small Club from South, taken with West's Nine. 9, Knave of Diamonds ruffed by South, leaving this position:

♠ 8 6
♡ 10 4
◇ ...
♣ ...

♠ ...
♡ 9
◇ ...
♣ K 10 3

N / W E / S

♠ 9
♡ K
◇ 8 5
♣ ...

♠ ...
♡ J 7
◇ ...
♣ Q 7

At trick 10 the Seven of Clubs was ruffed in dummy with Four of Hearts and over-ruffed by East's King. Sitting behind Miss McNulty, I had admired her judgement—twice she had been on lead and had rightly refused to return a Spade. And now, I thought sadly, what woman (or man, for that matter) could resist leading the master Nine of Spades? Does it not look as though an over-ruff by partner is the only hope of beating the contract?

But East did not even hesitate for a split second; she fired back a Diamond, presenting the declarer with a ruff and discard. Not a word was said, and the players went straight on to the next hand. I must confess that an uncharitable thought crossed my mind; could it be that Miss McNulty had "pulled a wrong card," or simply played the card nearest her thumb? But no—when tackled later, she gave the right answer in a flash.

East had visualised the exact position at Trick 11. A Spade lead is fatal; South has no option but to ruff with the Knave. Then her last Heart is led to dummy's Ten, drawing West's Nine, and the Eight of Spades is good. Women, they say, are mean at the card table; yet the gift of a ruff and discard, as the diagram shows, is the only effective defence at this point. It is true that the declarer missed her chance earlier on, and that the contract could have been beaten by another defence, but this does not detract from an excellent piece of card-reading.

* * *

Solution to defensive problem.

South has to account for East's unusual play—he ruffed the second Spade with Ace of Hearts, risking the loss of a trump trick and of a further trick in Spades. Why not ruff low in dummy at Trick 2, and then ruff his Queen of Spades with the Ace? There can be only one answer: he cannot get back to his hand, which means that he has more than one card in each of the minor suits. It follows that North has a singleton or void in Clubs.

In practice South led the King of Diamonds at Trick 5 in the hope of killing the dummy. If you decided that a Club lead was indicated, take half marks for a good try. The only specific card which defeats the contract is the *King* of Clubs. East's hand was this:

♠ Q 7 2 ♡ K J 10 9 7 3 ◇ Q 9 ♣ 9 5

Solution to bidding problem.

An optimist will lie low, hoping for the pleasure of leading out his Clubs against a final contract of Three No-Trumps. But West is almost sure to rebid in some suit—Three Hearts, for instance, which East raises to Four. The same thing may happen if South bids Three Clubs, but he has at least indicated the best lead.

Leslie Dodds proposed a novel solution: *South should double*. Superficially, this sounds absurd—so much so that neither opponent will imagine that all his strength is in one suit. Their hands might be something like this:

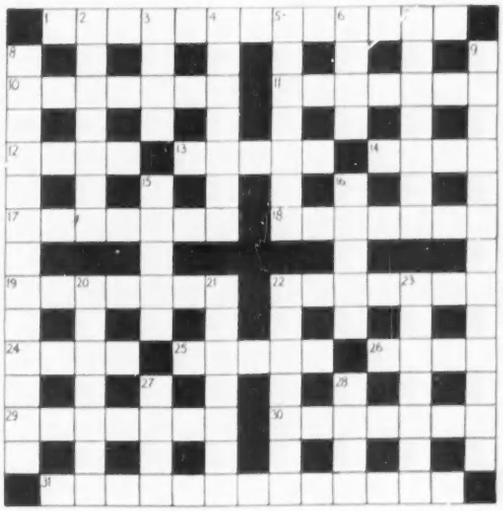
West	*East*
♠ A J 9 7 3	♠ K 10
♡ A K 5 2	♡ Q 8 7 3
◇ K 5	◇ A Q 10
♣ 9 6	♣ 10 8 7 3

West has no real counter to the double; his first inclination is to pass, or even to redouble. No one, he will argue, would offer a polite warning by doubling on a solid six-card suit. And the main point is this: unless West has the sort of hand on which he can jump to Four Spades, or Four Hearts, or Four Diamonds, any suit take-out will sound like a rescue bid on a hand which he should not have opened in the first place; and East, fearing that the double is a portent of bad breaks, may elect to pass.

In other words, the Dodds double may succeed in keeping the enemy out of a cold game. Also, paradoxically, it is the only hope of inducing them to stay in No-Trumps.

CROSSWORD No. 1353

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1353, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than ***the first post on the morning of Wednesday, January 18, 1956.***



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(MR., MRS., ETC.)

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SOLUTION TO No. 1352. *The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of January 5, will be announced next week.*

ACROSS.—1, Corporation; 9, Armed; 10, Arlington; 11, Ever; 12, Stoke; 13, Rose; 16, Incur; 17, Vendor; 19, Lesson; 20, Elgin; 22, Lily; 23, Tribe; 24, Fret; 27, Carnation; 28, Cream; 29, Corner-stone. DOWN.—1, Commence; 2, Rude; 3, On active service; 4, All skin and bones; 5, Inns; 6, Notion; 7, Watering-place; 8, Once upon a time; 14, Green; 15, Poges; 18, Aggrieve; 21, Cleric; 25, Fair; 26, Echo.

ACROSS

1. Our climatic R.N. comes to a bad end (8, 5)
10. Home, sweet home perhaps (7)
11. The settler unsettled (7)
12. Coward's poor little girl (4)
13. In the Mock Turtle's syllabus (5)
14. Continental form of loaf? (4)
17. Common to London, W.C.1 or W.C.2. (7)
18. Made of Orleans in Italy (7)
19. Schubert song (3, 4)
22. Green but white for the butterfly (7)
24. King John's was land (4)
25. "Maidens, like moths, are ever caught by the ——" —*Byron* (5)
26. Housman's loveliest of trees? (4)
29. Exposing vice or folly (7)
30. Legal arrest often seen on Continental films (7)
31. A villain mâché (anagr.) (13)

DOWN

2. Classic example of a dangerous crossing (7)
3. This hawk might be a death's head (4)
4. Sir Andrew thought his fooling was more this (7)
5. We have 26, the Russians have 43 (7)
6. *Absit* ——! (4)
7. Pretty good but snakelike (7)
8. Not necessarily without a testimonial (13)
9. How golfing nerves may be controlled (13)
15. "—— up a child in the way he should go" —*Proverbs* (5)
16. "The solemn temples, the great —— itself" —*Shakespeare* (5)
20. She appears in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (7)
21. Part of Spain and Central Europe (7)
22. The Delphic oracle's secret vessel (7)
23. Named for Vespucci (7)
27. Norman round, Gothic pointed (4)
28. Merely a form of silica (4)

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.

The winner of Crossword No. 1351 is
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P25

FARMING NOTES

GRAIN PAYMENTS

BARLEY growers have received an advance payment at the rate of £3 an acre on the 1955 barley crops. My cheque came to me appropriately in the week before Christmas and I gather that the distribution has been done promptly all around, except to those farmers who forgot to send in their application forms in due time in the summer, or where some query has arisen about the acreage that was harvested and qualifies for a deficiency payment. The total cost of the advance payments is about £6 million. It is estimated that 60 per cent. of last year's barley crop was sold in the harvest period up to November 12; the balance of sales will decide what extra payment is due at the end of this year. It does not seem likely that there will be any sharp rise in feed barley prices this spring as there was a year ago. Probably those who sold their barley in the autumn will score over those who have kept their barley; they have, moreover, had the advantage of the money in the bank. Brewers tell me that they are well pleased with the malting properties of Proctor barley, which was grown on a large scale for the first time in 1955 and harvested in excellent condition. The first deficiency payment on wheat covering the sales up to September 30 last has now been made at the rate of £8 0s. 2d. a ton. The wheat standard price is on a graduated scale, and the farmer who stores his wheat for sale late in the season gains thereby.

Regrets for Rabbits

TALKING to a farmer after tea, I found that while he strongly favours the elimination of the remaining rabbits, both his wife and his son have different ideas. The wife welcomed an occasional rabbit for the dinner table and the son enjoyed taking out his gun on a Saturday afternoon, or doing some ferreting on a Sunday. He made a useful little income on the side in this way. Neither the wife nor the son felt any benefit from the absence of rabbits. I have no doubt that there are many people who feel similar regrets. All the same, myxomatosis has undoubtedly relieved agriculture as a whole of a heavy toll and the economy of our farming industry is strengthened by the absence of rabbits. Shall we still be clear in five years time? In *The Pastoral Review* published in Australia I see that Professor F. Fenner, of the Australian National University, gives the opinion that the lethal French strain of myxomatosis, which is the one we have had in Britain, has failed in Australia to maintain itself in competition with the less virulent local type. It is probable that, if the less virulent strain continues to hold the field, the kill will have dropped to 50 per cent. or less in five to ten years as rabbits develop resistance to myxomatosis.

Belligerent Rams

RAMS put together at the end of the breeding season will sometimes do battle so fiercely that they suffer serious injuries. An old shepherd tells me that in his time he has had several rams fatally injured by fighting and he could not recommend any certain way of inducing them to live quietly together when they are taken away from the ewes. The best way, he thinks, is to shut the two belligerents up together in a small pen so that they get accustomed to each other at close quarters without the chance of the head-on collisions staged with such force that they sometimes prove fatal.

Subsidy for Silage?

WE ought not to try to make 6,000,000 tons of hay annually because the weather is so often against us. We should be making much less hay and much more silage, according to Mr. R. A. Hamilton, writing in *Agriculture*. Apart from silage-making being a better form of grass conservation under our conditions, it is more compatible with good pasture management than hay-making. Taking grass cuts for silage fits in well with rotational or strip-grazing—the most efficient forms of grazing. Mr. Hamilton thinks we should make 15,000,000 tons of silage a year, six times as much as we do, and he makes the suggestion that some of the financial support applied to British agriculture, mostly in the form of deficiency payments for products, might be applied to give a better return if it were in the form of direct financial assistance to silage-making, which would probably go further towards reducing the cost of some of our most important livestock products than any other single step that could be taken.

Cheese and Wine

COMMENDABLE enterprise was shown by the Milk Marketing Board in inviting Members of Parliament to a cheese and wine party to sample the territorial cheeses which are now coming on the market again. The best of them, I thought, was a farmhouse Cheddar from Somerset, which went well with the Burgundy which the guests were offered. Stilton and port are the traditional partners. I hope we shall see more of the other cheeses like Double Gloucester, which the Board have started to make in a Dorset creamery. Mr. Thomas Peacock, Chairman of the Board, presented a fine display of cheeses to Sir William Steward, M.P., Chairman of the House of Commons Kitchen Committee, with the hope that Members would enjoy the British product with their meals when they reassemble on January 24.

Dry Cowsheds

THE trend nowadays is towards the milking parlour and the housing of cows in covered yards. I have seen several well-designed places of this kind lately. But not everyone wants to break away from the more traditional type of milking shed where the cows are tied individually in their stalls. One of the disadvantages of this type of cowshed is the amount of labour it takes to keep the floor reasonably clean and the troubles caused by continually swilling down the concrete. Neither the cows nor the cowmen benefit from this "water concrete complex." An alternative is to keep the floor dry with a light sprinkling daily of ground limestone or superphosphate. The dung does not then stick to the floor and the surface is easily kept clean. A neighbour, who had trouble with the drainage system from his cowshed, now uses ground limestone, and he is well satisfied with the results. He uses a little straw in the standings.

Wiltshire Ways

MR. CHARLES W. WHATLEY is a Wiltshire farmer who has enjoyed hunting with the V.W.H. (Cricklade) as well as public service through a long and full life. Now he looks back with equal relish on days in the hunting field and round the committee table. In *Farm, Fox and Friends* he points to many changes to the good in farming practice, hastened by the demand for arable crops in the war. Wireworm in newly ploughed grassland has been defeated by the chemist, clay soils which baffled the horse plough have responded to the crawler tractor and disc harrows, and new leys in the arable rotation have proved more highly productive in milk output than the old permanent pastures. Mr. Whatley's book is published by the Wiltshire N.F.U. (10s. 6d. from Agriculture House, Devizes) and 1s. for every copy sold goes to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

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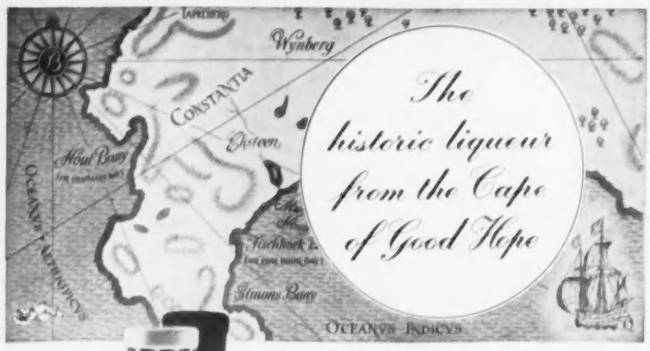

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THE ESTATE MARKET

FACING FACTS

LAST week I commented on market trends in 1955, in the light of a review prepared by Messrs. Strutt and Parker, Lofts and Warner. I did not, however, make any reference to the probable course of values in 1956, and since that is a matter that is likely to be of consequence to a number of readers, I venture to make a few prophecies.

THREAT OF INFLATION

First of all, it is clear that the market for all types of investment during the coming year will hinge to a great extent on the success or failure of the Government's efforts to curb spending, since the greater the threat of inflation, the higher becomes the paper value of negotiable commodities, with land, in particular, apt to change hands at sharply rising prices owing to the fact that investors are anxious to acquire something concrete. That, in effect, is the argument put forward by Mr. Norman J. Hodgkinson, a senior partner in Messrs. Bidwell and Sons, a firm that has wide and varied interests in real property, including the management of numerous agricultural estates. "I am of the opinion," he writes, "that the future of markets, not only in 1956, but for a considerable time to come, depends on how far the Government and the Nation are prepared to face facts, however unpleasant, and to appreciate that continued, accelerated inflation can only lead to the papering of walls with pound notes, in the same way that houses in Germany were papered with marks after the 1914-18 war." Assuming, however, that the Government's measures to curb inflation are reasonably effective, Mr. Hodgkinson anticipates that the market for most classes of real property are likely to remain firm during the next twelve months, with prices somewhat lower than in 1955, and that seems a logical enough suggestion.

FIRST-CLASS INVESTMENTS

One proviso, and it is a significant one, made by Mr. Hodgkinson when forecasting a firm market for 1956, is that this condition will apply only to first-class investments, and that, too, is logical, for, when credit is tight, few people have either the means or the inclination to speculate. In particular, Mr. Hodgkinson predicts a poor future for rent-controlled houses, and what he describes as third-rate shop properties. And he suggests that ground rents will become "even less marketable even at lower prices."

There is no doubt, as I stressed last week, that good-class agricultural land is one of the most sought-after investments in the country to-day, and for this reason is likely to hold its price as well as any, and even to improve on it if one problem, that of striking a realistic balance between expenditure on repairs and maintenance and income derived from rents, can be resolved. As it is, although it is generally agreed that rents are too low, there is a division of opinion about how matters should be put right. For instance, whereas Mr. Hodgkinson admits that some landowners are reluctant to increase the rents paid by good tenants, he complains that many arbitrators fail to take a realistic view of present rental values, whereas Messrs. Strutt and Parker, Lofts and Warner pin the blame for uneconomic rents squarely on the shoulders of landowners.

ARBITRATION UNNECESSARY

"Like many other managers of agricultural property," they write, "we have been devoting considerable energy to negotiating increased farm rents, and it is our experience that if the problems confronting the landlord are frankly explained to tenants, substantial increases . . . can be amicably agreed where they are justified, and we have seldom found it necessary to have recourse to arbitration." Continuing in the same vein, they say that all landlords would be wise to raise agricultural rents where they are still low and to strive to obtain the "adequate return on capital invested in the industry" guaranteed by the Agriculture Act, 1947, and they stress that whereas a farmer can ask for increasing costs to be adjusted at the annual or special price reviews, a landlord has no such direct remedy, and, further, that unless all landlords increase rents, adjustments in farm prices cannot be justified.

Another aspect of the market for agricultural land, in this case primarily land with possession, concerns the advantages of "running a farm account." Some people look on a farm account as an effective antidote to the worst measures that a Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Inland Revenue can devise. But somehow one doubts whether it is as easy as that. And one suspects, too, that it is not going to get any easier. Admittedly, a man who has a large income derived from directorships and other business activities may find it rewarding, as well as pleasant, to farm as a sideline. But even so it will be in his interests to invest in a good-quality farm, for, as Messrs. Strutt and Parker, Lofts and Warner point out, a small and difficult farm, where competent management is hard to arrange, if it loses money, may lose an unreasonable amount of money. And in spite of the various perquisites, financial and otherwise, that reward the businessman-cum-farmer, there comes a point when "profit" derived from loss becomes—loss.

STRATFORD HOUSE FOR SALE

STRATFORD HOUSE, in Stratford-place, the cul-de-sac on the north side of Oxford-street, W.1, is being offered for sale or lease by the London Investment and Mortgage Co. This well-known building, with its elegant rooms in the Adam style, was built by Edward Stratford about 1775, and passed at the beginning of this century to the Earl of Derby, who changed its name to Derby House and, among other alterations, added the ball-room. In recent years the building has been famous for housing the collection of sporting paintings formed by the late Walter Hutchinson. The present owners acquired it from Messrs. Hutchinson, the publishers, last year, and it has since been renovated and restored.

BARNWELL ESTATE SOLD

THE most important sale that has been reported since Christmas, and, indeed, for some weeks, is that of Mr. J. C. Blackett-Ord's Barnwell estate, which covers 2,125 acres at Barnwell St. Mary, near Oundle, on the borders of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. The property, which was sold privately by Messrs. Alfred Savill and Sons, adjoins Barnwell Manor, home of the Duke of Gloucester.

An auction of an agricultural property that met with mixed success took place the other day when Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff offered Brightwell Park and Chalgrove Farm, Oxfordshire, on behalf of Mr. Richmond-Watson. Contrary to the usual pattern of such auctions, the disposal of the principal house seems to have presented little difficulty, for it was sold with 73 acres for £14,500. Sixty-eight acres of feeding land were also sold for £6,000, and two bungalows fetched £1,950 apiece. But the two farms offered, the Home Farm, Chalgrove, of 385 acres, and Brightwell Farm, 260 acres, were withdrawn at £26,000 and £9,000 respectively.

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NEW BOOKS

AN OPPRESSIVE MOTHER

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

WE should not, I imagine, have heard much of Madame de Sévigné if, while she remained on her estate in Brittany, with frequent visits to Paris, her daughter, married to the Count de Grignan, had not moved with him, as his third wife, to his estates in Provence. It took about three weeks to pass from the one place to the other—not much of an enterprise to the rich, and both Madame de Sévigné and her daughter were rich—but the journey was not often made. There can be little doubt that this was because Madame de Grignan was glad to be away from her mother and did not encourage her to come to Provence.

But if mama could not often see the daughter whom she so frequently and fervently professed to love beyond all things on earth or in heaven, she could bombard her with letters. These letters have become famous in the literature of France. Probably, had there been no daughter to write to, Madame de Sévigné would have loosed them upon another target. Even as it was, she did, as we know, write to other people, and some of this miscellaneous correspondence appears in published collections of the letters; but those to the daughter enormously outnumber the others. I have never liked them; indeed, I have always detested them; and, having looked through them again in the new translation in which they reach us, I find my view unchanged.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS?

This collection is selected, translated and introduced by Miss Violet Hammersley: *Letters from Madame la Marquise de Sévigné* (Secker and Warburg, 30s.). Let us, for the moment, leave out all save those addressed to Madame de Grignan. Here are some extracts from them. "Do you wonder if I cannot refrain from kissing your lovely face and bosom?" "I cannot think of you without weeping, neither can I refrain from thinking of you, wherefore my state of mind is well nigh unendurable." "Having just left Grignan and said good-bye to you, I am dying of melancholy. If I followed the dictates of my heart I should weep all day long." "My heart is yours, yours to the exclusion of all else, over which you reign, shall reign and reign supreme for evermore." "Farewell, dearest, so passionately do I love you that, methinks, the extreme limit has been reached, further one cannot go, and should anyone wish to solicit my affection he must needs be satisfied with the little I have left, a few crumbs, such for instance as I scatter before your portrait." These are not the product of a brief season of dementia. Such expressions sprinkle the letters throughout twenty years. They are not the normal expression of maternal love. They seem to indicate a deep psychological disorder carefully cherished by the writer, and they sicken me.

Some of the things that Madame de Sévigné chose to tell her daughter are odd, too. She had a son who seems to have been a sorry young waster, but who, one is glad to learn from a footnote, "became deeply pious after his marriage." He pursued women so much that some of the consequences were revolting, but this does not prevent mama from passing them on in grossest detail to her "lovely one, lovely and greatly loved." What with this and the swapping of stories about cures, sweatings and purges, it all makes the sort of reading I could well do without.

Is the case covered by Miss Hammersley's remark: "Lyn Irvine says that a masque-like exaggeration of mood and experience was a persistent fashion in the 17th century"? It was; but here exaggeration itself is distorted and caricatured to a point where it ceases to amuse, where it leaves one feeling that this explanation does not fully explain. There certainly was something very odd about Madame de Sévigné.

GARDENS AND BARBARITY

Miss Hammersley speaks of Madame de Sévigné as "almost the pioneer of that splendid race of women gardeners" that included Miss Jekyll. It makes me smile to think of the wry mouth Miss Jekyll would have made over this: "I . . . wandered in enchantment by the light of the moon . . . I was like a real phantom. It did me all the good in the world; I owed it to chaste Diana to pay her my respects." Or this: "A wood nearby . . . is haunted by fauns and satyrs, tripping the *bourrées* to the sound of pipe and oboe." I wonder whether Miss Hammersley has ever seen William Nicholson's painting called *Miss Jekyll's Boots*? To wear that wonderful pair of clodhoppers would be to discourage fauns and satyrs not a little.

It was a barbarous time. In his preface to this book Mr. Somerset Maugham writes: "During one of her sojourns at Les Rochers the peasants and the townspeople of Brittany, downtrodden and illegally taxed, revolted. They were punished . . . with barbarity. They were hanged, drawn and quartered by the hundred. Men, women and children were driven out of their houses into the street, and no one was allowed, under pain of death, to succour them. Madame de Sévigné wrote: 'The mutineers of Rennes have run away long ago; so the good will suffer for the wicked; but I find it all for the best, so long as the 4,000 soldiers who are at Rennes . . .

LETTERS FROM MADAME LA MARQUISE DE SÉVIGNÉ.
Selected, translated and introduced by Violet Hammersley
(Secker and Warburg, 30s.)

WORTHWHILE JOURNEY. ***By Tromp van Diggelen***
(Heinemann, 15s.)

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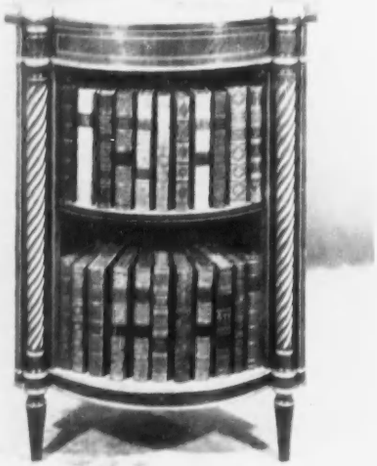

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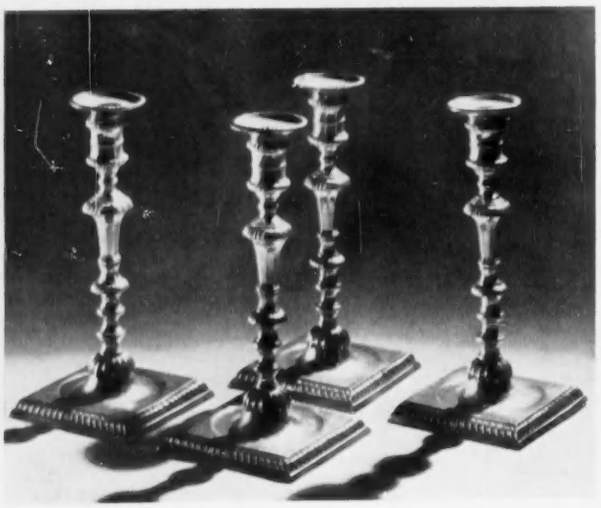

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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—*continued*

don't prevent me from walking about in my woods, which are very fine and marvellously beautiful.' And again: 'They've taken sixty bourgeois; they'll begin to hang them to-morrow. This province is a good example to the others; above all it will lead them to respect their governors, not to abuse them, and not to throw stones in their garden.'"

CONDONERS OF BRUTALITY

This attitude, says Mr. Maugham, cannot be excused; it can only be explained. His explanation is that the times were brutal, and he asks us to remember the barbarities of our own times and to reflect that "man" remains "very much what he always was."

But, when all is said and done, you cannot use the word "man" like that. You cannot conveniently group Jesus and Judas, Lincoln and Hitler, as "man." Happily for the human race, it is made up of *men*, and if in every age there are brutes, so also in every age there are human beings who are not brutal. Madame de Sévigné was not one of them. For myself, I prefer the active brute to the condoner of brutality. Hitler's thugs, chivvying the victims to their doom, gain almost a touch of nobility from those who stood by and grinned at the fun.

The wheel came full circle. Madame de Sévigné was buried at Grignan. A later owner of the place adopted the cause of the Revolutionaries who overran the *château* and the church. "One of Madame de Sévigné's descendants," Miss Hammersley tells us, "who hastened with others to the scene, describes the sacrilege which took place in all its ferocious barbarity and horror. Fighting ensued, and the remains of the poor Marquise were torn asunder—a few remnants of brocatel, a few strands of hair, a rib, a tooth, falling into the hands of the vandals, who seemed to have realised their value. After the holocaust a heap was made of skeletons, bones and skulls, which were thrown back into the open grave, and the marble tomb re-sealed." Those interested in such things will be glad to know that two bits of the blue brocatel that clothed the Marquise's corpse may still be seen—one at the Carnavalet and one in the Sorbonne Library.

MUSICAL MUSCLE-RIPPLER

Mr. Tromp van Diggelen, author of an autobiography called *Worthwhile Journey* (Heinemann, 15s.), has such complete control of a notable set of muscles that he can make them ripple to music. He has done this in public exhibitions, being, I imagine, the only musical muscle-rippler in human annals. This was the culmination of his worth-while journey, but the matter is not so absurd as this makes it sound, for it is his opinion that the perfect control of the muscles, with all that that means in its reaction upon the functioning of the body, is the secret of health; and he tells us here of how, having been born a weakling, he evolved out of his own commonsense and observation of his body, and without the help of any apparatus, that perfect health and beauty of form which made him a renowned wrestler, gained for him the title of Apollo, and permitted him to have his own son christened Hercules.

Mr. van Diggelen, a descendant of the redoubtable van Tromp who used to disconcert English fleets, was born in South Africa, where his father, a lawyer, was in on the ground floor when gold was found, for he owned land that contained the glittering metal. The boy was sent to a school in England that specialised in handling physical weaklings, and thence to another school near Brighton, where he began to wake up to an understanding of how to take his health in hand. He demonstrated his efficiency by throwing a large, bullying schoolmaster downstairs. He went on to Germany to study mining engineering, and, as different men find different stars to follow, his became the body fit and beautiful. His father, who had left South Africa and established himself in the City of London, discouraged his ambition to be a professional strong man, but it was inevitable that it should come, and it came upon the return to South Africa, which followed the loss of a fortune because of the father's speculations.

The book has a two-fold interest, for we are given a first-hand account of the old days in South Africa before the Boer War and of the rip-roaring gold-and-diamond days that followed, and also of the personalities of such men as Sandow, Hackenschmidt and others. It is a very readable book.

I owe, and hereby make, an apology to Sir David Bone, whose book *Landfall at Sunset* I reviewed in COUNTRY LIFE of December 15, 1955. Sir David wrote a book called *Merchantmen at Arms*, dealing with the service of the merchant navy in the first World War, and this was illustrated by his brother, Sir Muirhead Bone. In *Landfall at Sunset*, Sir David, speaking of the ending of his career as a sailor, says he hopes to write "a second volume of reminiscences of service in the greater conflict of 1939-45." He says: "In working on it, I looked forward with happiness to renewed co-operation with my artist brother," who had agreed to the inclusion of drawings in the new volume. As Sir David says nothing about this work having, in fact, been done, I concluded that it had not been done, for Sir Muirhead Bone had died in the meantime. However, I am happy to say that I was mistaken. I am told that the book was finished and that, with Sir Muirhead's illustrations, it was published a few years ago by Chatto and Windus under the title *Merchantmen Rearmed*.

HORSES OF 1955

IN *Great Horses of the Year* (MacGibbon and Kee, 21s.), the photographs and text provided by Baron and Clive Graham produce an individual and vivid record of the great race horses of 1955. The horses are seen at home and on the course, and some of the general views, such as the cut-outs of Derby Day, 1955, are full of animation and interest. Baron's coloured frontispiece of Phil Drake greeting his jockey, Freddie Palmer, is unusual, and a very clever piece of photography. Pictures and descriptions of the show jumpers of 20 different nations are included in *The World's Show Jumpers*, by Pamela Macgregor-Morris, with a foreword by Colonel F. A. Ahern (Macdonald, 12s. 6d.). Most of the photographs are excellent. The *Horse and Hound Year Book 1955-56* (Odhams, 15s.) contains statistical information of bloodstock, point-to-points, hunting, polo, shows and horse societies, as well as details of the markings at combined horse trials.

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1956 STYLES

THE tailored suits are always the first of the new season's designs to be issued from the wholesalers and to appear in the shops. They are an unusually varied selection this year, as many pleasant ways of softening the contours of the man-tailored suit of classic proportions have been worked out. The result is that the neat outline which is the hallmark of the English tailormade is retained with certain dressmaker decorations on revers, pockets and so on. Even the country suits in tweed, which are always the last group to register any change, have altered. Often the collars and revers are widened, while on others the jacket buttons to the throat and has the turndown unstiffened collar of a shirt. Neat trimmings of felt or suède are added as pipings, collars, or narrow belts. Some of the tweed suits that are part of a threesome with a matching topcoat have jackets that are shaped like a cardigan, which is collarless and without any revers. The thick homespun tweeds in pale sky blues or raspberry pink look very fresh and

A tweed suit that has leather collar and buttons and a narrow leather half-belt at the back. The Shetland tweed in tones of brown and beige is woven with a feather-stitch stripe (Country Life Wear). Felt hat (Scotts)

Brushed wool the colour of alabaster makes a short jacket. Note the wide open neckline and the straight lines. The moulded dress underneath is in grey tones flecked with alabaster (Frederick Starke)

Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE *Studio*

The line for a spring cloth dress is moulded and beltless. The black and white herringbone tweed below has three-quarter sleeves set in below the shoulders and an open neckline (Dorville)

springlike. Yellow often makes a pinstripe or chalkline check on soft lichen greens or stone mixtures.

The tweed suit with a straight jacket remains in force in all the collections. It is the useful type that can be worn in either town or country and is usually made in a speckled or broken herringbone tweed in brown mixtures. Some of the jackets are shaped like a reefer with double-breasted fronts, flapped pockets on either side, slits at the hem under the arm and narrow neat collars and revers. Others, usually in a softer weave, button to the throat with a Peter Pan collar and narrow cuffs. Detail is placed on the hem of the jackets as stitched bands, piping, or flapped pockets. Skirts are straight as pillars, and this is the line that is seen most frequently on all the spring suits, though some of the country ones, of course, have panels and pleats for walking, or are made with gently gored skirts in four or six sections. It is not until we come to the more fitted types of jackets in the lighter shantung, woollens and suitings that the pleated skirt appears.

The waistline is relaxed on all the jackets that are still called fitted, though these have a much less definite outline than those of even last year, while the nipped waists of a couple of years ago look quite out of date. This kind of jacket is shorter than ever, and often revers and collars are wide and soft or are given a one-sided treatment with one wide rever and a scarf on the other side that slots through at the point of the V-shaped opening. On other suits the widish roll collars turn up at the bottom or a scarf is knotted round at the back. This is separate and can be worn also as a stole folded round the shoulders. The neckline open all round that is fashionable among the coat dresses is also seen on suits. A collar folds high all round this neckline, which is sometimes open almost to the shoulders and then filled in with a sweater. The jackets that have such dressmaker collars or stoles keep to the straight plain type of skirt. The pleated skirt usually has a jacket with a loose waist and a neat short basque with flapped pockets on the hem and narrow neat revers.

The dress and jacket combination is strongly represented among the woollen outfits intended for town or travel. These feature the same construction as the clothes designed for later on in linen, rayon or silk. There are soft

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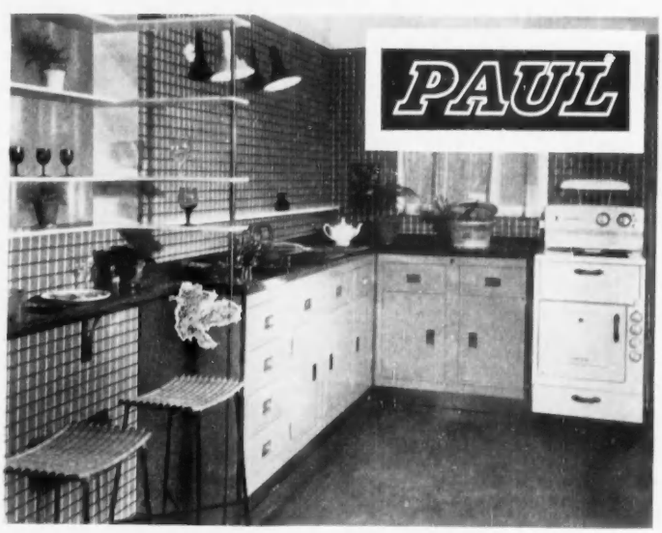

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Cardigan in cashmere designed by Christian Dior. The waistline is indented and the wide collar bordered with a flat band (Lyle and Scott)

Alexon show an excellent spring coat in a particularly wide velveteen in an attractive greenish putty shade. This is made with low-placed pockets and falls straight from the shoulders. Another in tangerine coloured wool shows the semi-fitting waist and midriff which have the effect of creating a high-waisted look. This line continues to about the knees and then flares out to the hemline. The gores are not full, but there is a definite widening. It has a youthful charm and is an excellent coat to wear to a function such as a spring wedding, besides being simple enough for everyday. Windsmoor show a rayon brocade coat designed for an afternoon function in a mellow blend of gold and tortoiseshell browns. This shows the latest version of the fitted coat with the waist less emphasised and moderate gores in the skirt.

The silhouette that emerges is a slight modification of that of the previous season, still dominated by the easy fit of the waist. This has brought back the sheath skirt, a line that is not easy and therefore has been modified in various ways in the larger fittings. Gores, pleats and godets are inserted about knee level to create a fluid hemline. The skirts are mounted on silk and swathed round the hips or draped to the centre front or side, so that the line is broken, while the silk foundation keeps the shape of the skirt. The knife-pleated skirts of the fine woollen suits and the silk dresses are easy to wear. Dior has introduced the wide skirt set in again at the natural waist with big unpressed box pleats. This is a return to an earlier fashion, as the skirts are worn over voluminous stiffened petticoats and it is the answer to the difficulties encountered by the sheath dress and the long body line. To wear the latter successfully, a woman needs to be tall and willowy, while the plant sheath dress presents difficulties about the hips.

The relaxed waist looks well for a suit, while the shorter jackets that are prevalent are becoming. Many of the tweeds have a comparatively smooth surface and a close weave. Some subtle mixed colours have been shown for these suits, neither dark nor pale and good mixers in a wardrobe.

P. Joyce Reynolds.

(*Right*) A beret in silky velours of mushroom brown piped with dark brown grosgrain. It has headband and bow underneath of the grosgrain (Renée Pavy)

(*Right*) Larger hats are coming in: a winter cartwheel in melusine, chestnut brown and cream (Kate Day)

short jackets generally with this easy-fitting waistline, while the dress underneath is svelte, beltless and has a low camisole bodice. These bodices could not be plainer, for there are no collars or any kind of trimming and the sleeves are reduced to a mere inch or two. A great number of two-pieces have been shown in the beige and gold shades deepening to café-au-lait and lightening to milk and alabaster white. After this there are some charming dusty pinks and sky blues and a still paler ice blue that looks particularly well in the new Moygashel fabric that has a shantung weave, a cool handle and is almost creaseless. Another excellent rayon looks like a lightweight tweed and is flecked in tones of one colour with white. Among the woollens, the milk whites and alabaster tones are prominent both as a shantung weave or the thicker bouclé tweeds.

The milk whites are repeated for a large number of coats, but into this category come more vehement colours such as tangerine, vermilion, turquoise and a deep hyacinth blue. The dusty pinks and blues look well for coats intended to be worn in high summer over printed dresses or suits in white silk with the colour of the coat for the lightly traced design. Silk dresses keep the same simple contours of the wool, but knife-pleated skirts are numerous. The model wholesalers have an excellent plan of mounting the soft silks that they use for the moulded dresses and jackets on a foundation of cotton so that the shape is kept. All these great wholesalers show silk dresses and jackets with pale coloured grounds or white and small irregular patterns etched in a pastel colour and well covering the ground.

(*Right*) A strong smart boot in calf warmly lined with white wool and saddle-stitched with white (Lotus)

The snakeskin bag has the neat contours that look smart with the straight silhouette of the spring. The pyramid-shaped cocktail bag in black suède has a gold metal clasp and a broad flat handle (Sir John Bennett)

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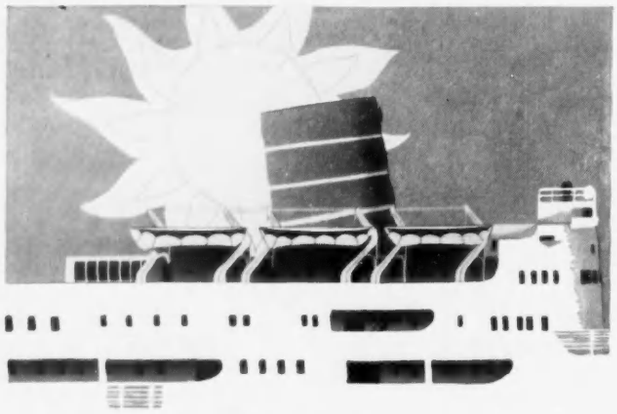

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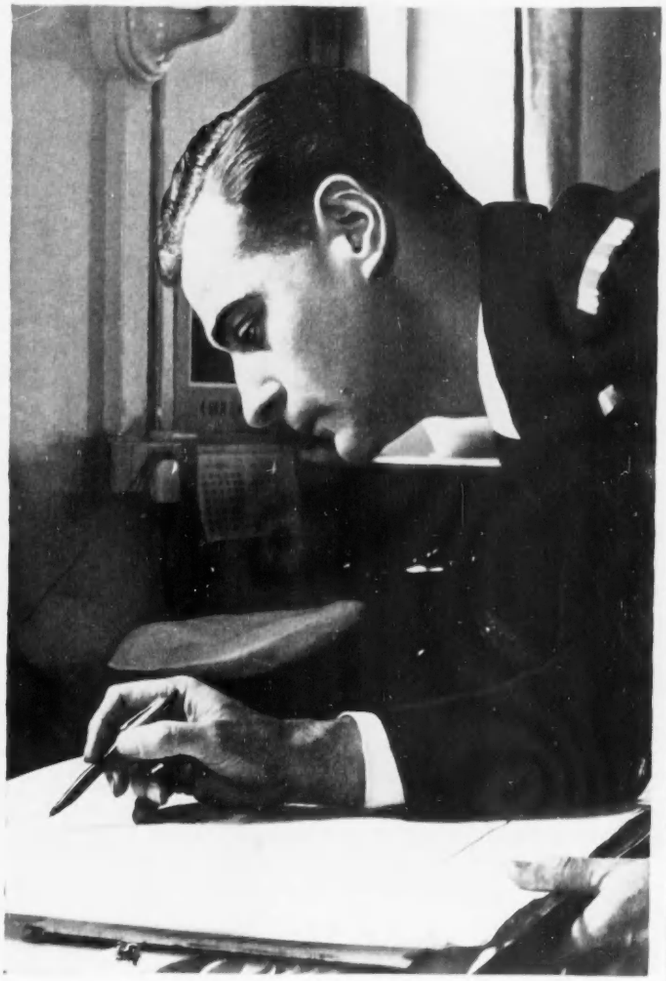

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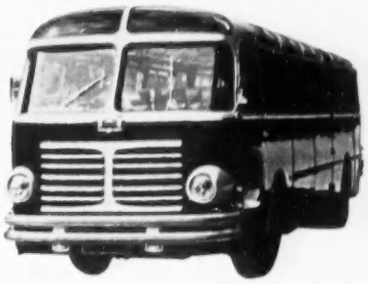

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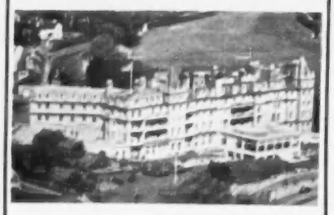

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